



## MEDIA ADVISORY

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## PATIENT ADVOCATES TO TESTIFY IN FAVOR OF LEGISLATION TO END CO-PAY ACCUMULATOR PROGRAMS IN CONNECTICUT

*[SB 1003](#) will prohibit use of co-pay accumulator programs, which allow insurers and PBMs to 'double dip' on the cost of needed prescription medications*

On Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> patient advocates representing thousands of patients from across Connecticut will testify virtually in front of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee in favor of SB 1003, legislation that when passed will prohibit the use of co-pay accumulator programs. Nearly two dozen organizations have signed on to a letter of support for SB 1003.

The legislation is critical to any patient using prescription drug discount programs to defray the out-of-pocket costs passed on to them by insurance companies.

Drug manufacturers have long offered discount programs to help patients. Until recently, insurers applied the total cost of the prescription—what the discount covered and what the patient paid out of pocket to the patient's insurance deductible.

However, with co-pay accumulator programs, **only** the amount that the patient pays directly out of pocket will count towards their deductible—not what the manufacturer program puts toward the cost of the medication. This results in the patient paying more out of pocket to reach their deductible and the insurer being paid twice.

**WHAT:** Insurance and Real Estate Committee hearing on SB 1003 (co-pay accumulator)

**WHEN:** Tuesday, March 9, 2021 12n

**WHERE:** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWGEqdQAY0I97ecZS9oHR6Q/live>

**WHO:** Patient advocates from Connecticut and New England

**\*\*Patient advocates are available for interviews prior to and following the hearing\*\*\*\***

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