

State Medical Society of Wisconsin

Working together, advancing the health of the people of Wisconsin



TO: State Senator Rodney Moen, Chair
Members, Senate Committee on Health,
Utilities, Veterans and Military Affairs

FROM: Maureen O'Brien, State Medical Society

RE: SB 250 - Support

DATE: October 17, 2001

As new diabetes treatment guidelines expand, some family physicians and general practitioners may find that they are dealing with a whole new scenario. "The hard part is getting used to the need to keep changing medication with some diabetics," said Robert B. Johnson, MD, River Falls. "What works this week may not work next year, even if a patient is not on insulin. With diabetes, you have to be diligent; eventually one therapy doesn't work, and the patient gets worse unless therapy changes."

Wisconsin Medical Journal, March, 1998.

In recent years, treatment for diabetes has evolved tremendously, and as those changes occur, so must the coverage for treatment of diabetes. It's well documented that by working with the patient to monitor and keep diabetes under control, hospitalizations are reduced and overall cost of treating the patient is lower. In addition, the quality of life and treatment for the patient is improved when the patient has access to needed medications.

SB 250 clarifies the requirements for insurers. It also requires the health insurance policies that currently are subject to the requirement to cover diabetes equipment and supplies to also cover prescription medicine for the disease. The State Medical Society urges the Committee to support SB 250.

Vote Record

Senate - Committee on Health, Utilities, Veterans and Military Affairs

Date: 10/23/01
Bill Number: SB 250
Moved by: Breske Seconded by: Robson
Motion: Passage

Committee Member

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Not Voting</u>
Sen. Rodney Moen, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Roger Breske	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Judith Robson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Jon Erpenbach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Mark Meyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Robert Cowles	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Scott Fitzgerald	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Mary Lazich	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Totals:

Motion Carried

Motion Failed