

## Testimony In Support - HB 4073

**Subject:** HB 4073 - Testimony in Support

**Date:** Tuesday, February 4, 2020

**From:** Hugh Palcic

**To:** hhc.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

**The following is my testimony, offered in support of HB 4073:**

**To: House Committee On Healthcare**

Dear Chair Salinas and Members of the House Committee On Healthcare,

As both a son and a father of family members diagnosed with Type I diabetes, I praise the merits of this bill and urge the members of the House Committee On Healthcare to vote in favor of this very important piece of legislation, HB 4073.

Throughout my entire life, I have been a frontline witness to the struggles surrounding diabetes and healthcare. As a teenager, I watched my father lose his sight and later be forced onto dialysis treatment until death at age 46. It was crushing. Flash forward to present day, and I am reliving this nightmare again with my daughter who was diagnosed with Type I diabetes while in high school.

The two experiences are hauntingly similar, however, the difference between them is that, unlike in my father's era, the cost of life-critical insulin was not part of the financial "live or die" calculation. No one should ever have to ration life-sustaining medication, and yet unfortunately, that is where we all find ourselves today.

With close to half a million Oregonians' lives in the balance, we can and must do better. As such, I urge all members of the House Committee On Healthcare to please vote YES on HB 4073.

Thank you.

Hugh Palcic

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hugh Palcic". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.