

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 6, 2022

Senator Ron Wyden
Chairman, Committee on Finance
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Mike Crapo
Ranking Member, Committee on Finance
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

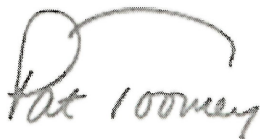
Chairman Wyden and Ranking Member Crapo:

At the end of the last work period, Senator Shaheen and Senator Collins released draft language of a proposal that attempts to address the cost of insulin products. We appreciate their work on this issue, which contemplates significant changes to the Medicare program.

As with most proposals regarding drug pricing, their proposed changes involve trade-offs and far-ranging implications, which both deserve frank discussion. The Senate Finance Committee has a history of entertaining such conversations through hearings and legislative mark-ups. This process allows members of our Committee to engage with stakeholders, hear from experts, evaluate the potential effects, and provide their own perspectives. It also offers the members of this Committee the opportunity to propose potential changes or alternatives for consideration that could achieve our mutual goal of ensuring affordable access to life-saving and innovative medications, both now and in the future, while respecting the federal taxpayer.

On June 22, Leader Schumer stated plans to bring the Shaheen-Collins proposal to the Senate floor for a vote, possibly in this coming work period. We are concerned that it is his intention to do so without first allowing committees of jurisdiction to weigh in. Given the importance of this issue, we request that the Senate Finance Committee hold a mark-up on this or any drug pricing legislation within the Committee's jurisdiction before it is brought to the full Senate for consideration.

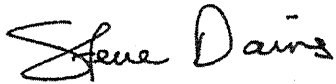
Sincerely,



Pat Toomey
U.S. Senator



John Barrasso, M.D.
U.S. Senator



Steve Daines
U.S. Senator



Rob Portman
U.S. Senator



Ben Sasse
U.S. Senator