More than 37 million Americans live with diabetes, and according to a new Diabetes Statistics Report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 96 million people 18 or older have prediabetes. The epidemic keeps growing. Every 21 seconds, someone in the U.S. is diagnosed with diabetes. And with every diagnosis, another American faces terrible complications, including kidney failure, blindness, amputation and even death.

The American Diabetes Association (ADA) is the nation’s leading voluntary health organization fighting to bend the curve on the diabetes epidemic and help people living with diabetes thrive. For 80 years the ADA has been driving discovery and research to treat, manage and prevent diabetes, while working relentlessly for a cure. We help people with diabetes thrive by fighting for their rights and developing programs, advocacy and education designed to improve their quality of life.

The American Diabetes Association urges Congress to make diabetes a priority in the 117th Congress.

Making Insulin More Affordable

- Support the bipartisan INSULIN Act sponsored by Sens. Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) and Susan Collins (R-ME). This proposal would limit out-of-pocket costs for certain insulins to no more than $35 per month for individuals with private health insurance. The bill would also reduce the list price of insulin by reforming the insulin rebate system, benefiting uninsured patients.

FY 2023 Government Funding

- ADA urges Congress to complete the FY2023 appropriations process to provide year-long funding to Federal Agencies to support the 133 million Americans with diabetes and prediabetes. Any lapse in funding would threaten America’s research entities and stall medical breakthroughs that could benefit individuals living with diabetes.

- Short-term CRs slow the pace of scientific innovation, add uncertainty to a system that is already under stress due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and create funding uncertainty for researchers and patients. In a 2009 GAO study, all six case study agencies reported that operating within the limitations of a CR resulted in inefficiencies such as delaying contract awards, deferring hiring and training, unnecessarily increasing redundant work, and ultimately costing taxpayers more money in the long-term. In the absence of final appropriations, federal agencies postpone research and prepare for potential lapses in funding.

FY 2023 Federal Funding Increases for Diabetes Research and Programs

- Increase funding for the NIH’s National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) to $2.3 billion, the primary federal agency that conducts research to find a cure and advance treatments for diabetes. This investment in NIDDK is needed to advance the nation’s efforts to develop new and superior treatments, enhance disease detection and management, improve the prevention of diabetes and its complications, and ultimately discover a cure.

- Increase funding for the CDC’s Division of Diabetes Translation (DDT) to $185 million, whose mission is to eliminate the preventable burden of diabetes through research and education, and by translating science into clinical practice. This investment in the DDT will allow CDC to build upon its innovative diabetes translational research, strengthen surveillance efforts, and expand national, state, and community programs.

- Increase funding for the National Diabetes Prevention Program (National DPP) to $40 million, which can dramatically reduce the number of new diabetes cases in individuals with prediabetes.

- Support a $50 million increase in SDP/SDPI funding to bolster the program during this very difficult time for Americans with diabetes. SDP provides critical funding for research toward a cure for type 1 diabetes and funding for type 2 diabetes prevention and management activities in Native American communities.

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