



Our Mission: To drive efforts to cure psoriatic disease and improve the lives of those affected.

The Honorable Jim Justice  
Governor of West Virginia  
State Capitol, 1900 Kanawha Blvd. E  
Charleston, WV 25305

**RE: Support HB 2770 (Davis) – Fairness in Cost-Sharing Calculation Act**

Dear Governor Justice:

The National Psoriasis Foundation (NPF) is a non-profit organization with a mission to drive efforts to cure psoriatic disease and improve the lives of those affected. NPF is the leading patient advocacy group for more than 8 million Americans and over 58,000 West Virginia residents living with psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis.

I write to you today to express our support of HB 2770, relating to fairness in cost-sharing calculations. The passage of HB 2770 will ensure an insurer and pharmacy benefit manager include any cost sharing amounts paid by or on behalf of the patient to their cost sharing requirements. This legislation will help prevent access barriers to critical therapies through further shifting of high health care costs onto the patient population.

Many insured patients are unable to afford the medical care and the full range of treatments necessary to manage serious, chronic and potentially debilitating diseases including psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis. A 2017 study of data collected from NPF surveys found that although roughly 89% of patients with psoriasis or psoriatic arthritis were covered by insurance, a little over half spend more than \$2,400 per year in out-of-pocket costs for their disease. In fact, some patients spend upwards of \$8,000 per year toward cost-sharing obligations.

When facing high out-of-pocket costs, patients do not use their medications appropriately; skipping doses in order to save money or abandoning treatment altogether. According to several studies, prescription abandonment rates increase significantly when cost-sharing exceeds just \$100.

On behalf of the psoriatic disease community, we ask that you sign HB 2770 into law. Affordable access to critical therapies is critical for a patient working to maintain their health and quality of life. Programs that unnecessarily increase cost sharing obligations can lead to complications of uncontrolled disease for the patient, disabilities, and, in turn, increased health care costs.

We appreciate your attention on this important matter. Should you have any questions regarding this issue please contact Amy Prentice, Associate Director, State Government Relations at [aprentice@psoriasis.org](mailto:aprentice@psoriasis.org) or 503-546-5551.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Beranek".

Randy Beranek  
President and CEO