



**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF DIABETES EDUCATORS**

The “Diabetes Screening and Medicaid Savings Act” – S. 755

The American Association of Diabetes Educators supports the “Diabetes Screening and Medicaid Savings Act” (S.755).

Given the growing prevalence of type 2 diabetes, the steps proposed in S. 755 will address the need to lower the incidence of type 2 diabetes and diabetes complications among the Medicaid population by providing screening tests under the Medicaid program for adult enrollees with diabetes risk factors.

While diabetes is a manageable disease, an individual’s ability to effectively manage it is directly connected to his or her ability to access and utilize appropriate health care –from primary prevention to secondary and tertiary prevention. Without access to diabetes medications, equipment, and educational training, people with diabetes are at a much greater risk for diabetes-related complications such as blindness, kidney failure, and amputations. Yet these services, including screening and early interventions, vary by state, with some states providing more comprehensive coverage and other states offering merely catastrophic coverage with the onset of diabetes complications.

The “Diabetes Screening and Medicaid Savings Act” will combat the rising health care costs associated with diabetes by increasing prevention, early detection, and management services.

S. 755 will also ensure that states offer a comprehensive package of benefits needed to properly manage diabetes care. This would include prescription drug coverage, durable medical equipment, services related to pregnancy, vision care, podiatry, education and self-management training, and nutrition services.

The American Association of Diabetes Educators calls on Congress to:

- Enact S. 755, the “Diabetes Screening and Medicaid Savings Act”; and
- Support legislation that will provide the Medicaid population with increased prevention, early detection, and management services.

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