



Skyrocketing prescription drugs are unaffordable to more and more Connecticut residents

In a recent [poll](#):

- 88% of people who take prescriptions regularly
- 50% of those with private insurance
- 64% of those who buy private insurance on their own
 - ...are worried they won't be able to afford their medications
- 20% reported they did not fill a prescription, resorted to cutting pills in half and/or skipped a prescribed dose of their medications

Prescription drugs account for more than 30% of health insurance premiums. While premiums are climbing, people are also spending more and more out of pocket for their medications due to high deductibles, increasing co-pays and expensive co-insurance payments.

HB 7174 proposes multiple ways to help Connecticut residents afford their medications

The state employee health plan has the leverage to negotiate lower prices. The bill can expand the number of people that benefit from this bargaining power by:

- Creating a prescription discount program that could allow uninsured and under-insured individuals paying out of pocket for their prescriptions to buy them at the price negotiated by the state employee health plan
- Allowing municipalities and self-insured companies in Connecticut to purchase prescription drugs for their employees at the price negotiated by the plan

Other important parts of the bill include:

- Proposing a way for the state to fight back against “pay-for-delay” tactics of pharmaceutical corporations, which keep lower cost generic drugs from entering the market
- Establishing a task force to study drug reimportation, to see if Connecticut residents can benefit from lower prescription drug prices in other countries

Share your story of how rising prescription drug costs impact you or your family with us at info@universalhealthct.org