



Virginia Diabetes Council
2618 Iron Forge Road
Herndon, VA 20171
January 29, 2016

Dear Chairman Hatch, Ranking Member Wyden, Senator Isakson, and Senator Warner:

As Chair of the Virginia Diabetes Council, I would like to strongly support the attached recommendations from the American Association of Diabetes Educators in response to the December 2015 Senate Committee on Finance (SFC) Bipartisan Chronic Care Working Group Policy Options Document.

The Virginia Diabetes Council is comprised of diabetes stakeholder across the state of Virginia, there are over 3 million Virginians living with diabetes or prediabetes. We recognize that it is imperative that barriers be lowered for individuals living with diabetes and any other chronic disease to ensure that they receive the best possible care. We recognize the importance of prevention and applaud the efforts of the Virginia Department of Health in providing grant funding to existing recognized diabetes self-management education program to expand their outreach to those living with prediabetes. It is imperative that changes be made to improve access to diabetes education and we hope that your efforts will make these necessary changes a reality.

We urge you strongly consider the following comments and recommendations put forth by AADE.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Gold, RN, MSN, CDE
Chair, Virginia Diabetes Council
2618 Iron Forge Road
Herndon, VA 20171