



February 5, 2016

The Honorable David Long
Members of Indiana State Senate
200 W Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear President Pro Tempore David Long and members of the Indiana Senate:

On behalf of the Indiana step therapy coalition (member logos listed above), thank you for passing SB 41 out of the Indiana State Senate on Monday, February 1st with a vote of 50-0.

SB 41, introduced by State Senator Michael Crider, is a key piece of legislation aimed at ensuring thousands of Indiana patients have access to the specific medications prescribed by their healthcare provider. The coalition would also like to thank State Senators Mark Stoops, Liz Brown and Lonnie Randolph for cosponsoring the bill.

Senate Bill 41 puts limits on an insurance industry protocol known as step therapy which can require patients to try and fail on a series of medications before being allowed to have a medication their healthcare provider has prescribed. This practice has become pervasive in the insurance industry where it can be required even when the prescribed drug is medically more appropriate for a patient's condition.

Senate Bill 41 does not ban step therapy, but rather gives healthcare providers a clear course by which to appeal the process. The bill does not limit the number of steps an insurer can impose nor does it prioritize the prescribing of brand name drugs over generics.

Our patient and provider advocates' thank you for advancing this important patient protection bill over to the Indiana House. Should you have any questions, please contact Michele Guadalupe at mguadalupe@arthritis.org.

Sincerely,

Members of the Indiana Step Therapy Coalition