



July 19, 2021

Assembly Appropriations Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2114  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Position Letter in Support of SB-97, Pupil health: type 1 diabetes information: parent notification**

Dear Assembly Chair Gonzalez, Assembly Vice Chair Bigelow, and esteemed members of the Assembly Appropriations Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to share our thoughts on SB97, Pupil Health: type 1 diabetes information: parent notification.

Beyond Type 1 is a nonprofit organization changing what it means to live with diabetes. Through platforms, programs, resources, and grants, Beyond Type 1 is uniting the global diabetes community and providing solutions to improve lives today. Founded in 2015 with a focus on education, advocacy and the path to a cure for Type 1 diabetes, Beyond Type 1 has grown to also include programs for those with Type 2 diabetes.

Rates of Type 1 diabetes are increasing worldwide. In the United States, of the 30 million individuals living with some form of diabetes, 5 – 10% of those have Type 1. That number is likely to almost double within the next 30 years, with over 5 million Americans projected to have Type 1 by 2050.

Information about this disease, which is frequently one of the most misunderstood chronic illnesses, is crucial to ensuring the health and safety of those already affected by it and the recognition of onset symptoms for those who have yet to be diagnosed. Beyond Type 1 has worked to raise public awareness of Type 1 broadly to curb the spread of misinformation, combat stigma, advocate for patient rights, and help improve patient outcomes.

Mandated information around Type 1 will help curb rates of misdiagnosis and death from undiagnosed diabetes. In the United States, 46% of patients diagnosed with Type 1 under the age of 18 are in diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA), a life-threatening complication of undiagnosed diabetes that will lead to death if unrecognized and untreated. Since 2016, Beyond Type 1 has worked specifically through its Warning Signs Awareness Campaign to share the signs and symptoms of Type 1 more broadly, knowing Type 1 can strike at any age and that recognizing the warning signs saves lives. We believe education and awareness are key to decreasing rates



of DKA worldwide and seeing to it that preventable deaths resulting from misdiagnosis and missed diagnoses are avoided.

**We ask that you please support SB97 with an AYE Vote so that schools in California are required to disseminate critical information around Type 1 to parents and families.** Not only will this lead to a greater understanding of this disease and help avoid the dangerous problems that come with misinformation, but this can see to it that prompt diagnoses are made in those who might otherwise not recognize the warning signs.

If you have questions regarding Beyond Type 1, our Warning Signs Awareness Campaign, or this bill, we are happy to help. Please contact Christel Marchand Aprigliano at [caprigliano@beyondtype1.org](mailto:caprigliano@beyondtype1.org).

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Christel Marchand Aprigliano  
Chief Advocacy Officer  
Beyond Type 1