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**Statement of Lora Pellegrini, President and CEO of the Massachusetts Association of Health Plans
on the Senate's Pharmaceutical Access, Cost and Transparency (PACT) Legislation
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The Senate should be commended for its affirmative efforts to address the rising cost of prescription drugs and we agree it should be a priority for legislators to address in a meaningful way this session.

The Massachusetts Association of Health Plans and our members support the Senate's call for greater transparency in how manufacturers set drug prices, including requiring pharmaceutical manufacturers to participate in the Health Policy Commission's annual Cost Trends Hearings, just as health plans and providers already do. We also support provisions that create a clear, open process for the state to identify high-cost drugs that impact public health and grant the Health Policy Commission the authority to recommend pricing measures. Transparency and oversight measures like these will begin to open the pharmaceutical industry's black box of prescription drug pricing.

We appreciate the Senate's desire to control the cost drivers of insulin; however, while it limits out-of-pocket costs for consumers, the Senate approach means copayments and price increases by insulin manufacturers will simply be built into consumer premiums. To begin addressing the underlying costs, we strongly support the transparency and oversight provisions that will hold pharmaceutical manufacturers accountable for the prices charged.