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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, **DC** 20515-4202

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May 5, 2021

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland Attorney General of the United States U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Garland:

Increasing access to affordable health care is one of my top priorities in Congress, especially during the ongoing public health emergency. As you likely know, the cost of insulin has nearly tripled over the last decade, placing an extreme financial burden on the millions of Americans who rely on this life-saving medication.

On October 22, 2019, I wrote the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) encouraging an investigation into rising insulin prices after it was brought to my attention that multiple class action suits had been filed against pharmaceutical companies for allegedly fixing insulin prices. In addition to the pending civil litigation, I urged DOJ to investigate alleged pricing schemes as a potential criminal matter. I request you to continue investigating this issue.

My home state of Tennessee has one of the highest rates of people living with diabetes in the country, and for many of them, this common 100-year old medication is becoming cost prohibitive. Access to life-saving medication is imperative, especially as our country continues to address the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. For these reasons, I urge your department to continue investigating these soaring insulin prices and take every action necessary to ensure that no illegal activity is taking place. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration, I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Tim Burchett

Member of Congress