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adapadvocacy.org

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ADAP Advocacy Association Joins Groups Supporting 'Safe Step Act'

Legislation puts common sense guidelines around insurance industry practice of "step therapy"

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WASHINGTON, D.C. – The ADAP Advocacy Association today announced it joined over 200 patient and health care provider groups from across the country [applauding](#) the reintroduction of the legislation aimed at putting reasonable parameters around the insurance industry's "step therapy" or "fail first" cost containment protocols. The [Safe Step Act](#) mirrors legislation passed in more than three dozen states across the country. When passed into law the legislation will bring similar patient protections to employer health plans that are regulated on the federal level.

Summarized **ADAP Advocacy Association's CEO, Brandon M. Macsata:** "Rationing healthcare is never a good thing for patients, especially for patients living with chronic health conditions such as HIV/AIDS. It is especially true for prescription medications. Unfortunately, an increasingly common technique involves private and public healthcare payers requiring step therapy...or step protocol...or fail first requirements. Sadly, such requirements not only undermine the provider-patient relationship, they also have proven to be less cost-effective in the long run."

The bill (S.652) is sponsored in the Senate by Senators Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Maggie Hassan (D-NH) Doc Marshall (R-KS), Jacky Rosen (D-NV). The House version of the bill is sponsored by Representatives Brad Wenstrup (R-OH-2), Raul Ruiz (D-CA-36), Lori Chavez-DeRemer (R-OR-05) Lucy McBath (D-GA-6) Mariannette Miller Meeks (R-IA-2) and Earl Blumenauer (D-OR-03).

To learn more about the ADAP Advocacy Association, AIDS Drug Assistance Programs, or the Safe Step Act, please email info@adapadvocacy.org.

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About the ADAP Advocacy Association: The ADAP Advocacy Association's mission is to promote and enhance the AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) and improves access to care for persons living with HIV/AIDS. **aaa+**[®] works with advocates, community, health care, government, patients, pharmaceutical companies and other stakeholders to raise awareness, offer patient educational programs, and foster greater community collaboration.