

**From:** wlsprn@aol.com [mailto:wlsprn@aol.com]

**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2016 10:25 AM

**Subject:** Diabetes Educator HB1851

Dear Representative Harhart,

This morning there will be a hearing for bill HB1851 to give licensure for Diabetes Educators in the state of Pennsylvania at eleven o'clock. I will be unable to attend but I wished to share with you how important this bill is to all of us that are nurse diabetes educators. There are 821 Diabetes Educators in this state to teach 1,107,937 people with diabetes in Pennsylvania. That would mean each diabetes educator would have to teach 1,394 people each year to meet the demand of helping those within our state understand their disease so that they could self-manage their disease adequately in order to stay healthy and save this state's tax payers millions of dollars in health care costs. In order for us to accomplish this feat, we would be able to do this more effectively if we were licensed in Pennsylvania. Right now we are unable to bill insurance companies and therefore unable to treat people with diabetes who wish to go through their insurance company to cover the cost of their healthcare. I am a Certified Diabetes Educator and I also live with diabetes every day, because I have diabetes and wear an insulin pump, so I understand this need intimately. Please support this bill and thank you for your interest. Rena E. Goldhahn MS-DEDM, RN, BSN, CDE

"To know even one life breathed easier because you have lived, that is to have succeeded." ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson



# LIVING WITH DIABETES

## Diabetes Educators Can Help

When you have diabetes it's especially important to stay healthy, although sometimes it isn't easy. But you are not alone – more than 29 million Americans have the disease. And you don't have to go it alone – a **diabetes educator** can help you find solutions to staying healthy that fit into your lifestyle.

**Diabetes education** helps people with diabetes learn how to manage their disease and be as healthy as possible by focusing on seven self-care behaviors: healthy eating, being active, monitoring, taking medication, problem solving, healthy coping and reducing risks.

**Diabetes educators** are experienced healthcare professionals – such as registered nurses, registered dietitians or pharmacists – who have special knowledge and skills to help you successfully manage all aspects of your diabetes. Like many people with diabetes, you may find managing the disease is difficult. That's where a diabetes educator can help, by working with you to design a specific plan that includes the tools and support you need.

Diabetes education works. Studies show that diabetes education helps people lower their blood sugar, blood pressure and cholesterol levels. These things help you stay healthier and reduce the risk of diabetes complications.

Doctors agree that diabetes education is helpful. In a survey of doctors whose patients with diabetes worked with a diabetes educator:

- **80% said their patients have more knowledge**
- **78% said their patients' experience was positive**
- **71% said their patients are healthier**

The American Association of Diabetes Educators (AADE) is dedicated to empowering people with diabetes to live full and healthy lives. Diabetes educators are nurses, dietitians, pharmacists and other health professionals who work in partnership with doctors and other healthcare providers to help people manage all the daily aspects of diabetes care, from healthy eating and being active to problem solving and healthy coping. AADE was founded in 1973 and today has more than 14,000 members. Learn more or find a diabetes educator at [www.diabeteseducator.org](http://www.diabeteseducator.org).