



PATIENT PROTECTION BILL WINS BIG IN UTAH SENATE

*SB 184 (1st Substitute) Wins Unanimous Vote
in the Utah Senate Business and Labor Committee*

Salt Lake City, Utah (2-11-23) - Senator Curt Bramble's legislation banning PBMs and insurance companies from diverting copay assistance funds meant for patients to their own pockets took an important first step to becoming the 16th state to ban copay accumulator schemes with a unanimous vote in the Utah Senate Business and Labor Committee. The bill will now move to the Senate Floor to be debated and voted on.

Veteran pundits following the Utah Legislature were stunned at the outcome given the opposition from the insurance industry and PBMs who mounted a grass roots campaign over the last week pummeling the Committee members with a barrage of claims about the negative impacts from Senator Bramble's ban on Copay Accumulators.

"The Rare Access Action Project (RAAP) applauds the fearless efforts of Utah State Senator Bramble in holding lobbyists for the insurance industry and PBMs accountable for false and misleading claims to justify diverting money intended for high-cost patients to their bottom line," stated RAAP Director of Government Affairs, Mac Haddow.

"As Senator Bramble pointed out, the insurance companies and PBMs claimed that insurance premiums had jumped by 8% after passage of the Copay Accumulator ban in the state of Washington. The truth is, the premium increases had been made in 2022, and the Washington Copay Accumulator legislation did not take effect until January 2023," said Haddow.

SB 184 is expected to pass the Senate and move to the House where the David and Goliath battle between patients and the politically powerful insurance companies and the PBMs will continue. "Just as we found success in today's committee vote, RAAP will continue to fight and do what is right to help pass SB 184 on behalf of rare disease patients," stated Haddow.

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RAAP, [the Rare Access Action Project](#), is a coalition of life sciences and patient stakeholders that explore creative policy solutions to address structural issues in access and coverage. Our priority is to help ensure rare disease patients have access to the care and treatments they need. RAAP is a registered 501 c4 non-profit organization.