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**Statement
Of
Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield
On
SB 459 An Act Prohibiting Copayments For Preventive Care**

Good afternoon Crisco, Representative Fontana and members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee, my name is Christine Cappiello and I am the Director of Government Relations for Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Connecticut. I am here today to reluctantly speak against **SB 459 An Act Prohibiting Copayments For Preventive Care.**

We are opposed to **SB 459** because it will increase costs substantially. While Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield believes strongly in preventive care, in fact our youngest members (children up to age 12) have no co-payments for preventive care, extending that benefit to all members would substantially raise costs for all our members; this is particularly troubling as purchasers of health insurance contemplate their ability to continue to purchase insurance for themselves and their employees. We are further concerned about this legislation, because "preventive care" is not completely defined by saying that the following codes are "included but not limited to" and that lack of definition will also impact the potential cost to members and employers.

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield has chosen to offer members benefits like discounts to gym memberships; nutritionist and lower co payments for primary care physicians than specialists as way give incentives to our members to lead healthier lifestyles.

We would respectfully request that the committee not move forward with this bill.