



**National
Multiple Sclerosis
Society**
Colorado Chapter

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Programs

Comprehensive programs
and advocacy statewide to
assist and empower
Coloradans affected by MS

Research

Ensuring that the best and
most promising research
is funded

Events

To support Programs and
Research

walk MS[®]
May 2, 9, and 16, 2009

bike MS[®]
June 27 – 28, 2009

Women On the Move™
Luncheon
September, 2009

February 2, 2009

RE: HB 09-1059
Health Care Coverage During Clinical Trial

Dear Representative Primavera
and Members of the Health and Human Services Committee:

We strongly support the bill to allow individuals to maintain their insurance coverage while they participate in a clinical trial.

Often a clinical trial advances the medical and scientific knowledge regarding a treatment course for chronic disease. In fact several MS clinical trials currently underway may soon provide an oral drug as affective as the current injections a person with MS is required to take at least once a week if not daily. The final stage of any drug trial requires human subjects. An oral drug rather than daily or weekly injections will substantially improve compliance with drug therapies, decreasing the symptoms associated with MS.

This bill will assist in dropping one barrier, lack of participation in a clinical trial due to the current insurance coverage denying benefits based upon such participation.

Sincerely,

Sharon O'Hara
Vice President, Programs