



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: AKIN CIL		PHONE NUMBER: 713-824-9787	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: UH - UMKC		TITLE: CHAIR OF ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY	
ADDRESS: 2301 HOLMES ST			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64108
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: AMY R. BECK, PHD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION; MISSOURI CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS; MISSOURI MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS ASSOCIATION; MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY: KANSAS CITY	STATE: MO	ZIP: 64114
EMAIL: drbeckadvocates@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 5:33 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am writing to express enthusiastic support for and request a vote to Do Pass for HB 1976. This request is on behalf of the following associations: Missouri Psychological Association Missouri Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers Missouri Mental Health Counselors Association Missouri Association of School Psychologists



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: ANDREW WHEELER		PHONE NUMBER: 573-893-3700
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 11:59 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

This is Common-Sense Legislation and provides Consumer Protections to Missourians. Missouri lives matter and needed treatments NEED to be the priority, See my House Committee Video Archived Testimony.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CHAKSHU GUPTA		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: chakgupta@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/15/2024 10:13 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Prior authorization has created a tremendous bottleneck for doctor's offices and hospitals, and an expensive administrative burden on a system already facing financial challenges. This bill provides a reasonable solution that both providers and payors should be able to get behind in the interest of our patients.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: CHRIS ROEPE		PHONE NUMBER: 816-294-0497	
REPRESENTING: UNIVERSITY HEALTH KANSAS CITY		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 205 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CHUCK HOLLISTER		PHONE NUMBER: 417-227-0960	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION		TITLE: CEO AND DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL AFFAIRS	
ADDRESS: 1051 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE			
CITY: SPRINGFIELD		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65804
EMAIL: chuckatmopa@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 2:34 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Preauthorization processes, originally designed to ensure our patients receive medically necessary services, have become an albatross around our providers' necks too often undermining the goal of excellence in care. The current system has several troubling problems:1. Patient stress due to uncertainty. Many of our patients face anxiety and uncertainty while waiting for the approval of treatments. This can exacerbate health issues, particularly in cases where immediate treatment is necessary.2. Provider burnout. Recent physician surveys have found that half of physicians report feeling "burnout." Administrative burdens, faced by physicians, particularly in navigating preauthorization problems, were the primary cause. Mental health providers report similar responses. This has caused many in the mental health field to seek employment that does not involve direct patient care. 3. Unnecessary increased costs. Operational costs can skyrocket, and have, due to the expense of managing preauthorization challenges. This is a problem for our physical healthcare providers but is often even more challenging for those providing mental health care. Reimbursement for non-prescribing mental health providers is low and margins are small. Additional administrative costs can make it very hard for providers to provide care and not risk a financial loss. As a result, many health providers have given up accepting insurance and many just refuse to work with certain insurance companies because of the problems they experience. This means that patients being covered by those insurance companies may have trouble securing the services of the best possible mental health provider. Mental health access in and of itself is a serious problem in Missouri. 4. Clerks handling preauthorization requests are often poorly trained in the codes used by mental health providers. Because mental health services are not a big-ticket item, training on the codes used by mental health providers is often a low priority. This leads to unnecessary errors increases in costs and delays and great frustration and upset on the part of providers and patients alike during the preauthorization process.5. Denial of necessary treatments: Insurance companies may deny preauthorization for treatments they deem unnecessary or not covered, leading to disagreements between healthcare providers and insurers about what constitutes necessary care. In the mental health field, psychological testing seems to be a favorite target for insurance companies. This has made it almost impossible to consistently provide testing for cases where a neuropsychological problem or autism is the center of focus. The time it takes to resolve these issues can be greater than the time it takes to provide treatment. Many mental providers simply take the financial loss because of this. They also may take a loss so as not to irritate the insurance companies that are making referrals to them, even if they feel they were treated unfairly.6. Impact on doctor-patient relationship: The preauthorization process can strain the relationship between doctors and patients. Doctors may feel pressured to alter their treatment plans based on what is likely to be authorized, rather than what is

best for the patient. Our providers can feel that they are working for the insurance companies and not their patients. 7.

Inconsistent criteria across insurers: Different insurance companies have varying criteria for preauthorization, leading to inconsistency and confusion among healthcare providers about the requirements for different patients. Again, poor staff training can complicate this further. Providers must spend unnecessary time learning these various criteria instead of being focused on patient care. 8.

Potential for Increased healthcare costs: Why is healthcare so much more expensive in the United States than in other countries? Administrative costs, like those involved in preauthorization, are a large part of the answer. 9.

Risk of uncompensated care: If preauthorization is not obtained in situations where it's required, healthcare providers risk not being reimbursed for their services, which can lead to financial losses. Families can be left with medical bills they are unable to afford to pay. We are pleased that the committee is examining the role preauthorization plays in raising the costs of care and in how it contributes to patient stress and provider burnout. We support HB 1976.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: DAVID JACKSON		PHONE NUMBER: 314-406-2937
REPRESENTING: JEFFERSON CITY MEDICAL GROUP		TITLE:
ADDRESS: PO BOX 1865		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: DAVID WINTON		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-6092
REPRESENTING: BJC HEALTHCARE, MISSOURI ASSN OF RURAL HEALTH CLINICS, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS MO CHAPTER, RANKEN JORDAN		TITLE:
ADDRESS: PO BOX 1805		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ELLEN SCHAUMBERG		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ellschaumberg@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/15/2024 12:30 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

The Prior Authorization process in our office is extremely complicated - each payor has their own rules that they apply. Trying to maintain staff and have them adequately trained to anticipate what an insurance company requires on a given day is challenging. Patients must wait for care while payors decide if they are going to approve a test or referral - and at time care is delayed even when we know that 99% of the time they will approve it. We must log into multiple websites to find out the status of our requests. There needs to be better way- payors should be required to follow some sort of standardized way of providing this information back to the clinic and/or patient.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: GARRETT WEBB		PHONE NUMBER: 219-229-1104	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI CHAPTER, AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS		TITLE: REGISTERED LOBBYIST	
ADDRESS: 710A SOULARD			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63104
EMAIL: webb@coestrategies.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 4:47 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

The Missouri Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics, and our more than 1,100 physicians, trainees, and pediatric-provider members strongly support removing barriers for patients to access routine care and allow providers to ensure patient needs are met.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JEFF HOWELL		PHONE NUMBER: 573-636-5151	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 113 MADISON			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JESSICA NICHOLS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI HEALTH CARE		TITLE: DIRECTOR FINANCIAL CLEARANCE	
ADDRESS: 1 HOSPITAL DR			
CITY: COLUMBIA		STATE: MO	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JOANNE LOETHEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: joanneloethen@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/15/2024 7:46 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Thank you to this committee for hearing this bill. I am a primary care physician in Kansas City (District 26) writing in SUPPORT of HB 1976 to help streamline the prior authorization (PA) process and reduce the patient harm that results from this administrative burden. Prior authorization is a costly and time consuming process for our medical practices. It is delaying access to clinically appropriate care for patients and reducing patient access to our healthcare teams. Instead of helping educate and care for patients, our teams are spending hours (yes, hours) each week sitting on the phone with insurance companies & pharmacies, faxing records, filling out lengthy forms, and appealing denials for common sense and clinically indicated medications. What follows is one of the many stories of PAs harming patient care. A patient of mine has a condition called interstitial cystitis – a condition of the bladder that can cause severe and debilitating bladder and pelvic pain. Before establishing care with me in 2021, he had tried and failed various first-line therapies. Because of this, he required a more expensive, but effective medicine to control his symptoms (a medication called Elmiron). His condition was successfully controlled on this medicine when he established care with me in 2021. However, when he switched employers in the Fall of 2023, his insurance changed. When I submitted a refill request for his medication, I was informed that a PA was required to approve coverage for this medicine. My team submitted the appropriate documentation, but the PA was denied. His new insurance claimed that he had not failed first-line therapies. When I appealed to explain the patient’s history of trying and failing multiple first-line therapies, the request was again denied stating that I had not yet supplied documentation of his trial and failure of these cheaper therapies. The patient, himself, was able to track down records from his prior physician which documented his failure of first-line therapies. Three (3) months, multiple appeals, and countless hours spent by my patient, myself, and my team to convince the insurance company of the need for this medication, it was finally approved. To my knowledge, no adverse event occurred for my patient when he experienced this gap in therapy. I shudder to think if this delay had occurred for a chemotherapy agent for a patient with metastatic breast cancer, a blood thinner for a patient at risk for blood clots, or insulin for a patient with Type 1 diabetes – all true examples from my colleagues about how the unregulated prior authorization is harming patients. This bill is a start to reigning in the overly burdensome administrative requirements imposed by insurance companies that are restricting access to care, creating delays, and contributing to the burnout of our health care workforce. Thank you for considering this important bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JOHN PAULSON DO PHD		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-0830	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS		TITLE: PAST PRESIDENT	
ADDRESS: 722 W HIGH			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: KYNA IMAN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-651-1185	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI NURSES ASSOCIATION		TITLE: GOVERNMENTAL CONSULTANT	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 1483			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITR		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63044
EMAIL: kynaiman@earthlink.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 4:47 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MATT PROKOP		PHONE NUMBER: 402-826-7494	
REPRESENTING: ALS ASSOCIATION		TITLE: MANAGING DIRECTOR, ADVOCACY	
ADDRESS: 1300 WILSON BOULEVARD, SUITE 600			
CITY: ARLINGTON		STATE: VA	ZIP: 22209
EMAIL: matt.prokop@als.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 5:49 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

January 16, 2024
The Honorable Kent Haden
Chair, Healthcare Reform
201 West Capitol Avenue
Room 311
Re: Support for Prior Authorization Reform and Its Beneficial Impact on People Living with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)
Dear Chair Haden and members of the Healthcare Reform Committee,
On behalf of The ALS Association and the 462 people living with ALS served annually in Missouri, we urge you to support HB 1976, which will reform the prior authorization process and have a positive impact on people living with ALS. ALS is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects the nerve cells responsible for controlling voluntary muscle movement. It is a devastating condition that leads to the gradual loss of muscle function, eventually rendering individuals unable to speak, eat, or breathe independently. Given the severity and rapid progression of ALS, timely access to necessary medical interventions, treatments, and support services is paramount. Currently, the prior authorization process poses significant obstacles and delays for ALS patients, impeding their access to critical treatments and therapies. According to the AMA, 91% of physicians said that prior authorization requirements had a somewhat or significant negative impact on patients' clinical outcomes. In addition, the cumbersome nature of prior authorization requirements not only undermines the quality of care but also exacerbates the physical, emotional, and financial burdens faced by people living with ALS and their families. In a 2022 ALS Association survey of people living with ALS and their families, approximately one in three participants report having care prescribed by their physician delayed or denied as the result of prior authorization requests. These denials were most often for medications, mobility equipment, or in-home care services. Implementing reform in prior authorization practices would alleviate these burdens and enhance the quality of life for people living with ALS. The following are key benefits that reform would bring:

- 1. Timely Access to Care:** Eliminate unnecessary delays in accessing treatments, therapies, medications, and assistive devices. Prompt initiation of these interventions is vital to slow disease progression and provide maximum relief and support to patients.
- 2. Reduced Administrative Burden:** Reforming this process would allow healthcare professionals to focus on delivering timely and comprehensive care to people living with ALS.
- 3. Enhanced Patient-Physician Relationship:** A strong patient-physician relationship is crucial in managing ALS effectively, ensuring that treatment decisions are made collaboratively and tailored to the specific needs of the individual.
- 4. Improved Quality of Life:** Swift access to interventions such as mobility aids, speech therapy, nutritional support, and palliative care can significantly enhance the quality of life for people living with ALS.
- 5. Financial Relief:** Reforms in the prior authorization process would reduce out-of-pocket expenses, lessen the need for appeals, and provide financial relief to those grappling with mounting healthcare costs. Additional reforms that would make the prior authorization process less burdensome for Missourians living with

ALS include standardized PA forms and lengths of time for PA review, as well as prohibitions on retrospective denials. I invite the opportunity to discuss these policy considerations in greater depth. In conclusion, I implore the Health Reform Committee to support HB 1976 and recognize the pressing need for prior authorization reform, particularly concerning the care of people living with ALS. By implementing more efficient and patient-centered processes, you can positively impact the lives of countless individuals living with this devastating disease. Please consider taking decisive action to improve the prior authorization system. Thank you for your attention and anticipated support. I remain hopeful that together, we can make a tangible difference in the lives of those affected by ALS. Should you require further information or wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at matt.prokop@als.org. Sincerely, Matt Prokop Managing Director, Advocacy ALS Association



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MATT PROKOP		PHONE NUMBER: 402-826-7494	
REPRESENTING: ALS ASSOCIATION		TITLE: MANAGING DIRECTOR, ADVOCACY	
ADDRESS: 1300 WILSON BOULEVARD, SUITE 600			
CITY: ARLINGTON		STATE: VA	ZIP: 22209
EMAIL: matt.prokop@als.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 2:52 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

January 16, 2024
 The Honorable Kent Haden, Chair, Healthcare Reform
 201 West Capitol Avenue, Room 311
 Re: Support for Prior Authorization Reform and Its Beneficial Impact on People Living with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)
 Dear Chair Haden and members of the Healthcare Reform Committee,
 On behalf of The ALS Association and the 462 people living with ALS served annually in Missouri, we urge you to support HB 1976, which will reform the prior authorization process and have a positive impact on people living with ALS. ALS is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects the nerve cells responsible for controlling voluntary muscle movement. It is a devastating condition that leads to the gradual loss of muscle function, eventually rendering individuals unable to speak, eat, or breathe independently. Given the severity and rapid progression of ALS, timely access to necessary medical interventions, treatments, and support services is paramount. Currently, the prior authorization process poses significant obstacles and delays for ALS patients, impeding their access to critical treatments and therapies. According to the AMA, 91% of physicians said that prior authorization requirements had a somewhat or significant negative impact on patients' clinical outcomes. In addition, the cumbersome nature of prior authorization requirements not only undermines the quality of care but also exacerbates the physical, emotional, and financial burdens faced by people living with ALS and their families. In a 2022 ALS Association survey of people living with ALS and their families, approximately one in three participants report having care prescribed by their physician delayed or denied as the result of prior authorization requests. These denials were most often for medications, mobility equipment, or in-home care services. Implementing reform in prior authorization practices would alleviate these burdens and enhance the quality of life for people living with ALS. The following are key benefits that reform would bring:

- 1. Timely Access to Care:** Eliminate unnecessary delays in accessing treatments, therapies, medications, and assistive devices. Prompt initiation of these interventions is vital to slow disease progression and provide maximum relief and support to patients.
- 2. Reduced Administrative Burden:** Reforming this process would allow healthcare professionals to focus on delivering timely and comprehensive care to people living with ALS.
- 3. Enhanced Patient-Physician Relationship:** A strong patient-physician relationship is crucial in managing ALS effectively, ensuring that treatment decisions are made collaboratively and tailored to the specific needs of the individual.
- 4. Improved Quality of Life:** Swift access to interventions such as mobility aids, speech therapy, nutritional support, and palliative care can significantly enhance the quality of life for people living with ALS.
- 5. Financial Relief:** Reforms in the prior authorization process would reduce out-of-pocket expenses, lessen the need for appeals, and provide financial relief to those grappling with mounting healthcare costs. Additional reforms that would make the prior authorization process less burdensome for Missourians living with

ALS include standardized PA forms and lengths of time for PA review, as well as prohibitions on retrospective denials. I invite the opportunity to discuss these policy considerations in greater depth. In conclusion, I implore the Health Reform Committee to support HB 1976 and recognize the pressing need for prior authorization reform, particularly concerning the care of people living with ALS. By implementing more efficient and patient-centered processes, you can positively impact the lives of countless individuals living with this devastating disease. Please consider taking decisive action to improve the prior authorization system. Thank you for your attention and anticipated support. I remain hopeful that together, we can make a tangible difference in the lives of those affected by ALS. Should you require further information or wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at matt.prokop@als.org. Sincerely, Matt Prokop Managing Director, Advocacy ALS Association Sources: 1. <https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/prior-authorization/why-prior-authorization-bad-patients-and-bad-business> 2. <https://www.als.org/research/als-focus/survey-results/survey-6-results>



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MEAGAN HOWERTON		PHONE NUMBER: 573-418-7616	
REPRESENTING: MOSAIC LIFE CARE		TITLE: BRENT HEMPHILL AND ASSOCIATES	
ADDRESS: 229 MADISON ST.			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: meagan@brenthemphill.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 6:05 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

My name is Meagan Howerton and I represent Mosaic Life Care, a hospital in St. Joseph and I am testifying in support of HB 1976.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SARAH SCHLEMEIER		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-4876	
REPRESENTING: QUEST DIAGNOSTICS		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 213 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SHANON HAWK		PHONE NUMBER: 573-659-6704	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI SOCIETY OF EYE PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 101 E HIGH STREET, FIRST FLOOR			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: shawk727@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 3:01 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Thank you for giving this legislation early consideration. The prior authorization process has created significant administrative burdens on medical offices and hospitals which slows down the process for patients in need of treatment. MoSEPS, which are the eyeMDs/surgeons, strongly supports this legislation.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SUZANNE MCGINNIS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: suzmas4@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 6:13 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

As a parent of a child who had a leg tumor, I am all for this bill. We had to jump through so many hoops to get the testing done, and then treatment. The amount of time spent by myself and the doctor's office is sad. As someone who has worked in the medical field for 30 years, insurance companies have been hindering care for years.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: TERESA COYAN		PHONE NUMBER: 417-689-4895	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: COXHEALTH		TITLE: CHIEF OF STAFF/VP GOV RELATIONS	
ADDRESS: 3850 S NATIONAL AVE SUITE 500			
CITY: SPRINGFIELD		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65807
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: CHRIS LONG		PHONE NUMBER: 573-680-9175	
REPRESENTING: ST. LOUIS AREA BUSINESS HEALTH COALITION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 1319 FRIENDSHIP RD			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: DAVID WILLIS		PHONE NUMBER: 816-719-9260	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI HEALTH PLAN ASSOCIATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 331 MADISON			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL GROTE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-424-5120	
REPRESENTING: CVS HEALTH		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 635			
CITY: COLUMBIA		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65205
EMAIL: mike@ga2.us	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 5:25 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL HENDERSON		PHONE NUMBER: 573-893-4241	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI INSURANCE COALITION		TITLE: GENERAL COUNSEL AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 220B E HIGH ST			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
EMAIL: mike@moinsurancecoalition.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 12:30 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. The Missouri Insurance Coalition opposes HB 1976.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: NIA RAY		PHONE NUMBER: 503-930-4666	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: CIGNA HEALTHCARE		TITLE: STATE GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 5766 PERSHING AVENUE			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63112
EMAIL: nia.ray@cignahealthcare.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 9:55 AM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Cigna Healthcare requests the Healthcare Reform Committee consider alternatives to the gold carding provisions contained within HB 1976. Our experiences have shown gold carding results in serious negative impacts to employers and patients. The policies:• Increase inappropriate care and costs, while not positively changing long-term behavior;• Result in greater confusion and increase the administrative burden for providers; and• Eliminate important benefits of utilization review.Utilization review plays a critical role in helping patients receive high-quality, evidence-based care, and it keeps costs down for the entire health care system. The adoption of HB 1976 would dramatically curtail benefits for patients, while also creating greater confusion and administrative burden for providers. We believe there are ways to streamline utilization review that create a better experience for providers without sacrificing patient care.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: SEAN STEPHENSON		PHONE NUMBER: 240-909-1544
REPRESENTING: PHARMACEUTICAL CARE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 325 7TH STREET NW		
CITY: WASHINGTON		STATE: DC
		ZIP: 20004
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1976		DATE: 1/16/2024	
COMMITTEE: Healthcare Reform			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SHANNON COOPER		PHONE NUMBER: 660-890-1432	
REPRESENTING: AMERICA'S HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 208 MADISON			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2024 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			