



Chair Patterson, Vice Chair Knopp, and members of the committee:

Yes on HB 2517A

HB 2517A will support patient access to necessary and appropriate treatment by requiring transparent, electronic communications from payors regarding prior authorization (PA) or step therapies. The current system of prior authorizations is labor intensive and creates delays in patient care. Our providers typically work in small offices with minimal staff. If a PA is required, our physicians are pulled away from patient care to submit additional paperwork, often multiple times for the same patient. This process is not sustainable for our practices and has the potential for patient harm.

HB 2517A allows insurance companies to continue to mitigate cost with utilization, however, this bill will require the payors to provide a reason for any denial, allow authorizations to be valid for a period of time. HB 2517A also requires payors to clearly identify the drugs, devices and services requiring utilization management, together with relevant exception criteria and detail process for submitting a utilization management request.

Please vote yes on HB 2517A and allow our providers to spend more time with patients instead of paperwork and allow our patients access to necessary and appropriate treatments.

Oregon Association of Naturopathic Physicians