



March 25, 2025

Representative Rob Nosse, Chair  
House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care  
State Capitol  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Nosse and Members of the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care,

The Oregon Society of Medical Oncology (OSMO) and the Association for Clinical Oncology (ASCO) are pleased to support **HB 3134**, which would reduce administrative burden for physicians in Oregon.

OSMO is a professional organization whose mission is to facilitate improvements for Oregon physician specialties in both hematology and oncology. OSMO members are a community of hematologists, oncologists, and other physicians who specialize in cancer care. ASCO is the world's leading professional society representing physicians who care for people with cancer. With over 50,000 members, our core mission is to ensure that patients with cancer have meaningful access to high-quality cancer care.

Prior authorization requires patients or their providers to secure pre-approval as a condition of payment or insurance coverage of services. In a recent ASCO survey, 80% of respondents said that a patient has experienced significant impacts on their health, such as disease progression, because of prior authorization processes. The most common harms to patients include delays in treatment (95%) and diagnostic imaging (94%), patients being forced onto second-choice therapy (93%) or denied therapy (87%) and increased out-of-pocket costs (88%). These survey responses confirm that prior authorization results in unnecessary delays or denials of cancer care.

OSMO and ASCO are committed to supporting policies that reduce cost while preserving quality of cancer care; however, it is critical that such policies be developed and implemented in a way that does not undermine patient access. Payer utilization management approaches like prior authorization are of particular concern because they represent greater likelihood of raising barriers to appropriate care for individuals with cancer.

HB 3134 would offer providers that have at least an 80% approval rate of prior authorization requests over a 12-month period an exemption. A well-earned exemption for providers that have a proven track record of prior authorization approvals will allow doctors to skip the burdensome prior authorization process, ultimately resulting in more-timely delivery of care to patients.

OSMO and ASCO support HB 3134 and encourage the Committee to pass this legislation to ensure that physicians most familiar with their patients' health care needs can provide timely care. For a more detailed understanding of our policy recommendations on this issue, we invite you to read the [ASCO Position Statement: Prior Authorization](#). Please contact Sarah Lanford at ASCO at [Sarah.Lanford@asco.org](mailto:Sarah.Lanford@asco.org) if you have any questions or if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Holly Almond, NP, MSN, RN, BA  
President  
Oregon Society of Medical Oncology

Eric P. Winer, MD, FASCO  
Chair of the Board  
Association for Clinical Oncology