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To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed bill that would allow for 16 visits of physical therapy before requiring prior authorization. As a [physical therapist/business owner] in Oregon, I have seen firsthand how prior authorization policies delay care, increase costs, and place unnecessary burdens on small businesses like mine.

One of the most significant issues with prior authorization is the disruption it causes to patient care. I have witnessed numerous patients who, after beginning physical therapy, are suddenly forced to stop treatment because their insurance no longer approves additional visits. This interruption not only prolongs recovery times but also often leads to a worsening of the patient's condition. The result is that patients end up needing more intensive and costly treatments in the future, which could have been prevented with timely and continuous care.

In addition to the harm caused to patients, the administrative burden associated with prior authorization has a significant financial impact on small businesses. To keep up with the constant demand for authorization requests, I have had to hire an additional staff member just to handle these administrative tasks. This extra cost places a strain on our resources, making it harder to maintain a financially sustainable practice while ensuring that we can continue to provide high-quality care to our patients.

For many small businesses, the burden of prior authorization is unsustainable. Insurance companies often take an inordinate amount of time to process these requests, leaving us with a backlog of cases that slow down our ability to serve new and existing patients. The costs of handling these requests and the delays in care could be alleviated if we were able to provide 16 physical therapy visits upfront without the need for additional authorization.



Allowing for a set number of visits before requiring prior authorization would streamline the process, reduce delays in care, and ultimately save both patients and providers time and money. It would also help small businesses like mine remain viable, allowing us to continue offering essential services to the community.

I respectfully urge you to support this important legislation. It will not only improve patient outcomes but will also help strengthen small businesses across the state. Thank you for your time and consideration, and I am happy to discuss this issue further if needed.

Sincerely,

Lisa Jewell DC