



March 4, 2021

RE: Support for HB 2517

Dear Chair Prusak and members of the House Health Care Committee:

On behalf of the Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of Oregon (OPSO) and the over 2,500 osteopathic physicians, residents, and medical students in Oregon we represent, I would like to thank you for this opportunity to express our support for HB 2517. The increase in administrative burdens on physicians and the negative impact it has on high quality patient care and the physician-patient relationship is one of the top concerns we hear from our members. Specifically, our members often encounter prior authorization requirements and step-therapy protocols that impede or delay the delivery of care.

HB 2517 would take an important step in reducing physician administrative burdens. It is important to note that HB 2517 does not prohibit insurers from implementing utilization management programs; rather, it provides greater transparency around prior authorization programs and provides reasonable exceptions to step therapy requirements.

Our members strongly support streamlining utilization management practices. With the passage of HB 2517 we can reduce the amount of time physicians spend on administrative activities that take away from direct patient care and take steps toward improving the quality of care and patient experience.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David Walls
Executive Director