



Physicians Caring for Texans

Senate Health & Human Services Committee
Testimony by Tilden Childs III, MD, Texas Medical Association
Senate Bill 1150 (Limit Prior Authorization Requirements for Autoimmune Disease)
by Sen. Jose Menendez
April 26, 2023

Thank you, Madam Chair, Vice-Chair Perry, and committee members, for allowing me to testify today. My name is Dr. Tilden Childs, and I am a radiologist from Fort Worth. I am testifying today on behalf of the Texas Medical Association and myself in support of Senate Bill 1150.

This legislation is long overdue toward keeping Texas patients healthy. Over the past 5 years, 85% of TMA physicians report increasing prior authorization burdens for the prescription medications their patients need.

Three out of four – 78% – of physicians say their patients abandoned treatment due to prior authorization, and even worse, 38% report this led to the patient suffering a serious adverse event. Additionally, 81% reported prior authorizations interfered with continuity of ongoing care.

Not only will reducing the onerous burden of prior authorizations for chronic and autoimmune diseases reduce the number of adverse events suffered by patients, but doing so also will improve the quality of life for our sickest Texans.

Again, thank you, Madam Chair and committee members, for allowing me to testify today in support of Senate Bill 1150. I appreciate your work to remove burdens to patients getting the medications they need to live healthy, productive lives. I am happy to answer any questions.