

PRIORITIZE HEALTH INSURANCE PRACTICES THAT BENEFIT PATIENTS AND PHYSICIANS

Pursue comprehensive prior authorization reform and cut down on other burdensome health plan practices that contribute to rising health care costs, threaten the viability of independent medical practices, and compromise patient care.

TMA STRONGLY SUPPORTS

- **SB 1380/HB 2641 by Sen. Angela Paxton (R) and Rep. Suleman Lalani (D)**, would prohibit health benefit plans from imposing preauthorization requirements on a variety of health care services, including preventative care, care to prevent a permanent injury, condition, or illness, and ongoing care for a chronic condition.
- **HB 3812 by Rep. Greg Bonnen (R)**, would enact comprehensive prior authorization reforms, including added patient protections against harmful denials and improving on the 2021 gold carding law.
- **SB 547 by Sen. Jose Menéndez (D)**, would build on the 2021 gold carding law framework and promote its implementation as originally intended with additional transparency and accountability standards for insurers.
- **HB 1818 by Rep. Hubert Vo (D)**, would require the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) to conduct health plan reviews for compliance with certain utilization review and preauthorization requirements at least once every year.

(more bills on back)

OTHER BILLS TMA SUPPORTS

- **SB 1525/HB 2557 by Senator Menéndez (D) and Representative Jones (D)**, prohibits a health benefit plan issuer that provides prescription drug benefits from requiring an enrollee to receive more than one prior authorization annually for a prescription drug prescribed to treat a chronic health condition.
- **SB 815/HB 2922 by Sen. Charles Schwertner (R) and Rep. David Spiller (R)** would prohibit the use of artificial intelligence by health plans to make an adverse determination concerning the medical necessity of health care services.
- **HB 1266 by Rep. Ryan Guillen (R)** would expedite credentialing for nurse practitioners and physician assistants hired by physician practices contracted with an insurer to speed up access to care.

TMA OPPOSES

- **HB 139 by Rep. Jay Dean (R)** creates Employer Choice Plans, allowing insurers to bypass all state-mandated health benefits, provider protections, and consumer safeguards. This effectively removes state oversight and allows insurers to largely dictate coverage and cost-sharing without accountability, harming access to care and disrupting regulatory certainty.
- **SB 923/HB 5402 by Sen. Kelly Hancock (R) and Rep. Charlie Geren (R)**, would require the Legislative Budget Board to provide impact statements on behalf of the health insurance industry.
- **HB 4012 by Rep. Dennis Paul (R)** creates criminal and civil penalties, a private cause of action, and a bounty hunter law against physicians to empower health plans during claim disputes.
- **HB 3042 by Representative Paul** would create a new middleman for reviewing lab claims, yet exempt these entities from existing state safeguards designed to protect patients and physicians from inappropriate denials.



Physicians Caring for Texans