

March 17, 2025

The Honorable Jesse Bjorkman
Chairman, Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Capitol Building, Room 427
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Subject: Support for Senate Bill 133 – Prior Authorization

Dear Chairman Bjorkman,

I am writing to you on behalf of Central Peninsula Hospital to express our strong support for Senate Bill 133, which aims to improve the prior authorization process.

Central Peninsula Hospital is committed to providing high-quality, efficient care to our community. However, the current prior authorization process often creates unnecessary delays and administrative burdens for our patients. Senate Bill 133's provisions, such as the establishment of clear timelines for responses, the requirement for transparent and evidence-based standards, and implementation of a prior authorization application programming interface, will streamline the process and enhance patient access to timely care.

This legislation makes prior authorization standards that ensures transparency, establishes a process for health care providers to request a clinical peer review of a prior authorization request, ensures that clinical expertise is considered in the decision-making process, mandates that prior authorizations for chronic conditions are valid for a minimum of 12 months and reduces the administrative burden associated with ongoing care. These are all positive improvements over today's prior authorization process!

We believe this legislation will have a positive impact on the delivery of care in Alaska, and we urge you hear and move this legislation as quickly as possible. Thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Shaun Keef
CEO
Central Peninsula Hospital