



March 26, 2025

Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

Re: Senate Bill 133, Insurance, Prior Authorization

Chair Bjorkman, and members of the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Kati Capozzi, and I proudly serve as the President & CEO of the Alaska Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber is testifying today in support of Senate Bill 133.

The Alaska Chamber is the state's largest statewide business advocacy organization. Our mission is to promote a healthy business environment in Alaska. The Chamber has more than 700 members and represents businesses of all sizes and industries from across the state, representing 58,000 Alaskan workers and \$4.6 billion in wages.

The Chamber has a formal policy position to support a compromise for prior authorization reforms. We recognize that members and providers continue to face a challenging environment administering health care utilization.

Over the last year, hospitals, insurers, and regulators worked collaboratively to develop practical solutions to Alaska's prior authorization challenges. This effort led to SB133, a reform bill aimed at improving patient care by streamlining the prior authorization process. Some of the key provisions include faster decision turnaround times, long-term approvals for chronic condition treatments, automatic approvals for critical cancer therapies, and a clear step therapy exception process.

Supported by hospitals, physicians, and major insurers, SB133 promotes automation, transparency, and accountability in prior authorization procedures. The Chamber supports this compromise that preserves the protections of prior auth and also facilitates health plans and providers working together to more effectively serve Chamber member companies and their employees.

We applaud the collaboration that took place in the interim that resulted in SB133 and encourage the members of this committee to vote yes on this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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