



2025 Senate Bill 2280
Senate Industry and Business Committee
Senator Jeff Barta, Chairman
February 5, 2025

Chairman Barta and members of the Senate Industry and Business Committee, I am Dr. Allen Hager, a practicing chiropractor in Fargo. I am currently the President of the North Dakota Chiropractic Association (NDCA), and on behalf of the organization, I testify in support of Senate Bill 2280 and ask that you give the bill a **Do Pass** recommendation.

The NDCA represents chiropractors, who more commonly privately own and operate their clinical practices. Disjointed and changing prior authorization processes increase administrative waste and significantly burden small practices. Administrative waste is a significant driver of rising healthcare costs and increases provider burnout. These administrative hurdles have a negative impact on patient care, too, further establishing the need for industry standardization.

Healthcare providers utilize the standard of practice for healthcare services in any setting to identify a patient's condition and make an immediate plan of care that can be initiated as soon as possible, preferably during the initial encounter. Delaying implementation of the care with unnecessary reviews can adversely impact the patient's return to function and ultimately increase the overall cost of care. Delays in care associated with prior authorization have real consequences.

Performing utilization management, including prior authorization, should protect against fraud, waste, and abuse. They should not interrupt the flow of care. Providers need consistent processes, published rules, and predictable outcomes when engaging in necessary utilization management programs.

SB 2280 is a commonsense approach that allows chiropractors to continue to do what they do best. It's time to end the distractions and interference from disjointed and burdensome prior authorization processes. Please support SB 2280 with a **Do Pass** recommendation.

Respectfully,

Allen Hager, DC
President, North Dakota Chiropractic Association