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June 20, 2024

The Honorable Roger Marshall, MD  
United States Senate  
479A Russell Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Kelly  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1707 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kyrsten Sinema  
United States Senate  
317 Hart Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Suzan K. DelBene  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2330 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

**Re: Support for S. 4532/H.R. 8702, the *Improving Seniors' Timely Access to Care Act***

Dear Senators Marshall and Sinema, and Representatives Kelly and DelBene:

I write on behalf of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (AAAAI) to thank you for your leadership in reintroducing the ***Improving Seniors Timely Access to Care Act (S. 4532/H.R. 8702)***. The AAAAI supports the legislation which codifies and enhances recent regulatory actions by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to modernize and streamline the prior authorization process under Medicare Advantage (MA) plans. These reforms will ensure patients have timely access to critical medications and uphold the patient-physician relationship.

Established in 1943, the AAAAI is a professional association with over 7,000 members in the United States, Canada and 72 other countries. This membership includes allergist/immunologists (A/I), other medical specialists, allied health and related healthcare professionals—all with a special interest in the research and treatment of patients with allergic and immunologic diseases.

(More)

As you know, the current prior authorization process is overly burdensome, requiring medical providers and staff to dedicated hours of administrative time in negotiating with a patient's insurance companies to preapprove certain medications that prescribers have deemed to be medically necessary to properly treat patients. Last year, the AAAAI released a [position statement](#) outlining the burdens of prior authorization on A/I practices and patients. The ***Improving Seniors Timely Access to Care Act*** would make strides in reforming the current prior authorization process for MA programs to ensure patient access to the most appropriate medications in a timely manner. The AAAAI appreciates the legislation's provisions to remove administrative burdens and in turn restore time spent caring for patients, including by establishing an electronic prior authorization process to streamline approvals and denials.

Thank you for your continued leadership on this important bipartisan and bicameral legislation to put patients first. We look forward to working with you to advance this important legislation. As issues related to allergies, asthma, and immunological disorders arise, I encourage you to contact Sheila Heitzig, JD, MNM, CAE, AAAAI Director of Practice and Policy, at (414) 272-6071 or [sheitzig@aaaai.org](mailto:sheitzig@aaaai.org) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Paul V. Williams MD". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the "MD" at the end being more distinct.

Paul Williams, MD FAAAAI  
President, American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology