

Lou Mansolillo

From: McKinzie Eggers <mckinzieeggers@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 1:22 PM
To: House Corporations Committee
Subject: Written Testimony for H 7139

Dear Chairman Solomon and Members of the House Committee of Corporations,

My name is McKinzie Eggers, MD, and I am a Family Medicine Doctor working at Blackstone Valley Community Health Center in Pawtucket. I am writing in support of H 7139.

PMBs create an excess of work that falls upon the healthcare system. The bulk of this overhead falls upon primary care doctors like myself. I have a patient who has been on a thyroid medication for years, it is an essential medication for her to take. On Jan 1st, it was no longer covered by her insurance. I filled out a prior authorization that was denied. I then called the peer to peer line, left a voicemail, and am waiting for someone to call me back to do a peer to peer. They may call while I'm in the middle of seeing patients, as I see patient's 32 hours a week. I'm expected to leave the exam room to take this call and plead my patient's case. In the meantime, I've also been calling the patient, who is extremely upset with me. She has paid out of pocket for her medication this month, an expense that now means she may not be able to pay her rent. I have been running into dead ends with the insurance company and managing the patients frustrations which are aimed at me. I have been doing all of this work between patient visits, during my lunch, and after hours. I get paid for none of this work. The most frustrating thing of all is that my medical knowledge has been overruled by an insurance company, likely by someone who does not have a medical degree.

This is just one patient example of many.

PMBs make our system dysfunctional and dangerous. It is time we did something about this.

Again, I am speaking in support of House Bill 7139.

Best,
McKinzie Eggers, MD

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(she/her/hers)

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