



NEW HAMPSHIRE HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION STATEMENT ON PRIOR AUTHORIZATION (SB 561)

February 7, 2024

Steve Ahnen, President of the New Hampshire Hospital Association, released the following statement on SB 561 relative to prior authorizations for health care:

We commend Senator Denise Ricciardi's leadership in introducing SB 561, which removes barriers to patient care by streamlining the prior authorization process. The bill is patient-focused and attempts to create standards that help alleviate significant burdens for patients and providers, and requires more transparency and timeliness from payers on their prior authorization decisions.

Lengthy wait times to obtain prior authorization has too often resulted in delays in patient treatment and increased stress to clinicians trying to care for their patients. This bill will improve access to care and help providers focus on what matters most, patient care.

We deeply appreciate the hard work of the many stakeholders involved in supporting these reforms that ultimately benefit patients, health care workers and our communities by creating a more efficient prior authorization process and better access to timely, high-quality care.