



NURSE PRACTITIONER ALLIANCE OF RHODE ISLAND
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February 24, 2025
Representative Susan R. Donovan, Chair
House Committee on Health and Human Services
RI General Assembly
RI State House
82 Smith St.
Providence, RI 02903

Re: Testimony in FAVOR of HOUSE bill: H5120, *BENEFIT DETERMINATION AND UTILIZATION REVIEW ACT*

Dear Chair Donovan:

I, Denise Coppa, from House District 31 and Legislative Liaison, of the Nurse Practitioner Alliance, Director of the Family Nurse Practitioner Program at the University of RI and a practicing nurse practitioner in pediatrics at Hasbro Children's, write in support of H5120 to remove the requirement nurse practitioners' and all other primary care providers obtain prior authorization for any admission, service, item, treatment or procedure to complete medical orders. It is a travesty that third party health care insurers, including Medicaid, can impose cumbersome and unnecessary authorization documents to initiate or change orders leading to the continuation of inappropriate treatment regimens for patients. Prior authorizations are extremely time consuming for the provider and the patient. We need to start to lower this paperwork burden in primary health care settings.

I urge passage of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Denise Coppa, PHD, APRN-CNP, FAANP, FAAN
224 Cole Dr., N. Kingstown, RI 02852 (House District: 31)

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