

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF  
NEUROLOGICAL SURGEONS

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American  
Association of  
Neurological  
Surgeons



Congress of  
Neurological  
Surgeons

CONGRESS OF  
NEUROLOGICAL SURGEONS

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President  
REGIS W. HAID, JR., MD  
Atlanta, Georgia

President  
BRIAN L. HOH, MD  
Gainesville, Florida

May 12, 2021

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

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

The Honorable Ami Bera, MD  
U.S. House of Representatives  
172 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Larry Bucshon, MD  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2313 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**SUBJECT: Improving Seniors' Timely Access to Care Act**

Dear Reps. DelBene, Kelly, Bera and Bucshon,

On behalf of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and the Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS), we are pleased to endorse your legislation, the "Improving Seniors' Timely Access to Care Act."

As you know, prior authorization is a cumbersome process that requires physicians to obtain pre-approval for medical treatments or tests before rendering care to their patients. The process for obtaining this approval is lengthy and typically requires physicians or their staff to spend the equivalent of two or more days each week negotiating with insurance companies — time that would better be spent taking care of patients. Patients are now experiencing significant barriers to medically necessary care due to prior authorization requirements for items and services that are eventually routinely approved.

We are pleased that your bill will help reduce the administrative burdens of prior authorization in the Medicare Advantage program by streamlining prior authorization, minimizing the use of prior authorization for services that are routinely approved and increasing transparency.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue. The AANS and the CNS look forward to continuing to work with you to gain passage of this critical legislation.

Sincerely,

Regis W. Haid, Jr., MD, President  
American Association of Neurological Surgeons

Brian L. Hoh, MD, President  
Congress of Neurological Surgeons

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