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April 7, 2025

The Honorable Mark Green, MD
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Greg Murphy, MD
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kim Schrier, MD
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Re: H.R. 2433 the Reducing Medically Unnecessary Delays in Care Act of 2025

Dear Representatives Green, Murphy, and Schrier,

On behalf of The Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS), I would like to thank you for introducing H.R. 2433, the Reducing Medically Unnecessary Delays in Care Act. Founded in 1964, STS is a not-for-profit organization representing more than 7,800 surgeons, researchers, and allied healthcare professionals worldwide who are dedicated to ensuring the best possible outcomes for surgeries of the heart, lungs, and esophagus, as well as other surgical procedures within the chest.

We deeply appreciate your leadership on this legislation that aims to reform prior authorization requirements in Medicare, Medicare Advantage, and Part D prescription drug plans. As you know, the overuse of prior authorization is often a roadblock that prevents physicians from treating patients in a timely manner, if at all. Prior authorization can delay care and increase costs without improving patient outcomes.

Too often, prior authorization decisions are made by individuals without appropriate clinical training, particularly for complex or specialized cases. Your legislation would help reform prior authorization decisions by requiring that all disputes be reviewed by board-certified physicians in the relevant specialty. It would also require that prior authorization requirements be based on medical necessity and transparency. Enactment of these reforms will help patients receive timely, high-quality healthcare.

Thank you once again for your commitment to reforming prior authorization. We look forward to working with you and your colleagues in this endeavor. Please contact Haley Brown, Senior Manager of Political Affairs, at hbrown@sts.org, or Molly Peltzman, Associate Director of Health Policy, at mpeltzman@sts.org, should you need additional information or clarification.

Sincerely,

Joseph F. Sabik III, MD
President