



June 14, 2019

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
1727 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Roger Marshall, MD
U.S. House of Representatives
312 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives DelBene, Kelly, Bera, and Marshall

On behalf of the more than 82,000 members of the American College of Surgeons (ACS), I write in support of the bipartisan Improving Seniors' Timely Access to Care Act H.R. 3107. This legislation is a critical step in improving transparency and efficiency of the prior authorization (PA) process in the Medicare Advantage (MA) program.

Utilization review tools such as PA can sometimes play a role in ensuring patients receive clinically appropriate treatment while controlling costs. Requests from MA

H.R. 3107 would improve the current PA system by requiring the Centers for

services with low PA denial rates. Because standardization amongst MA plans PA processes is severely lacking, ACS believes that the inclusion of electronic transmission and transaction standards are a step in the right direction. We are optimistic that the inclusion of these electronic standards will help to facilitate real-time decisions for those services that are routinely approved.

Additionally,