FORM LETTER IN SUPPORT OF ENSURING TRANSPARENCY IN PRIOR AUTHORIZATION ACT
A1255/S1794

Instructions for submitting:

a. ***Email to**: PLEASE FILL IN NAMES AND EMAILS OF REPRESENTATIVES*
b. ***Email Subject:** Ensuring Transparency in Prior Authorization Act (A1255/S1794) - Support*

[DATE]

The Honorable [NAME OF REPRESENTATIVE]
[ADDRESS OF REPRESENTATIVE]

Re: Support for Ensuring Transparency in Prior Authorization Act (A1255/S1794)

Dear [PROPER TITLE & NAME OF REP.]

On behalf of Patients and Clinicians Together, I want to thank you for the opportunity to express my strong support for the *Ensuring Transparency in Prior Authorization Act (A1255/S1794).* My name is _____ and I am a proud (clinician or patient) residing in ____, NJ. I am part of [add a sentence about any practice, health system, or organization that you are a part of].

Patients and Clinicians Together is a group of interested individuals who are finding issues that impact both the health of patients and the ability of clinicians to provide great care to their patients. We look for issues where there are legislative obstacles to high quality, safe, equitable, and affordable health care and we take action to try and overcome those hurdles. One such issue is prior authorization.

Prior Authorization has been documented to threaten the health and safety of patients, increase costs in an already too-costly health care system, and waste both the time and resources of those working in physician practices across New Jersey. Earlier this year, the American Medical Association (AMA) published survey data that showed that nearly all (94%) of physicians reported delays in care due to prior authorization. The same survey also revealed that 89% of physicians reported that prior authorization negatively affected their patients' clinical outcomes; and that 80% of those surveyed reported patients abandoning their prescribed treatment due to the hassles of prior authorization. Lastly, a third of those surveyed indicated that prior authorization has, in fact, contributed to serious adverse events that led to hospitalization, patient harm, and even death. All these impacts on patient health and wellbeing of course add costs to the health care system. But even when patients are not harmed, the current prior authorization programs place an unreasonable burden on clinicians and those they work with by significantly increasing administrative time as well as waits and delays.

More than half of US states and the federal government have recognized these persistent, and preventable, problems and are acting to reform prior authorization.

The *Ensuring Transparency in Prior Authorization Act (A1255/S1794)* is a step in the right direction for the people of New Jersey. The Act will enable a meaningful decrease in delays of care that lead to poor outcomes, including long response times and repeat authorizations for those suffering from chronic conditions and those with long histories of medication adherence. The Act will also improve continuity of care when patients change their insurance or need new dosages. Crucially, the Act will require that only those physicians in the same medical specialty as the original prescriber are empowered to deny care. And as the name of the bill makes clear, the Act will increase the transparency of prior authorizations that patients need to make more informed choices.

[Describe in 1 or 2 sentences why you are passionate about this and why this legislation is important to you/your organization. Feel free to make your case by including specific local / regional data points, anecdotes, or illustrative narrative relevant to the community(s) you serve]

[I/We] respectfully ask you to support and vote in favor of *Ensuring Transparency in Prior Authorization Act (A1255/S1794)* from your Committee on November 20. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [insert email and/or phone contact information] to discuss this important legislation further. Thank you.

Sincerely,

[NAME]
[TITLE – if applicable]
[ORGANIZATION/AFFILIATION – if applicable]