

**Ohio Academy of Family Physicians  
Proponent Testimony- House Bill 130  
Ohio House Insurance Committee  
June 7, 2023**

Chairman Lampton, Vice Chair Barhorst, Ranking Member Miranda and Members of the Ohio House Insurance Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony for House Bill 130 on behalf of the Ohio Academy of Family Physicians.

The Ohio Academy of Family Physicians is a statewide professional association with 5,200 members, including practicing family physicians, family medicine residents, and medical students. Since 1948, the OAFP has represented the professional interests of Ohio family physicians, provided postgraduate medical education, and encouraged medical students to enter this field and to advance the patient-physician relationship. The mission of the OAFP is to improve the health of patients by advocating for and advancing the specialty of family medicine.

For over 75 years, our work has been guided by foundational values, including advocating for regulations that empower family physicians and their patients to thrive in the healthcare infrastructure. House Bill 130 provides an exemption to burdensome and duplicative administrative burdens placed upon Ohio physicians when key requirements are met. Specifically, this legislation provides clarity and uniformity to both payers and providers on prior authorization requirements. The bill would remove hassles of this administrative process when a provider has shown they have consistently and overwhelmingly met prior authorization requirements for the preceding twelve months. In doing so, this bill would reduce the inordinate number of hours spent on paperwork as opposed to patient care for providers whose performance metrics illustrate an unwavering adherence to evidence based medicine. Notably, prior authorization processes are often cited as a factor delaying access to care and interfering with continuity of ongoing care including a patient's decision to abandon a course of treatment. This bill would reduce these delays and roadblocks for patients receiving critical treatment and care.

As family physicians we must always consider what is in the best interest of patients. This bill reduces excessive red tape and overregulation and allows Ohio's family physicians to focus on improving the healthcare outcomes for Ohioans. We greatly appreciate the work of Representative Miller to bring this bill forward. We thank the committee for their consideration and urge support for this important legislation.