

TO: House Insurance Committee  
FROM: Robert L. Olm-Shipman, President & Chief Executive Officer of South and East Region,  
Saint Luke's Health System  
DATE: February 20, 2023  
RE: Proponent of House Bill 2283

On behalf of Saint Luke's Health System, a faith-based, not-for-profit, and its over 12,000 employees, we appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 2283, which concerns prior authorization reform.

Saint Luke's Health System currently has hospitals in south Overland Park, Iola, Garnett along with Community Hospitals in Leawood, Roeland Park, and Kansas City, Kansas. Saint Luke's South Hospital has 162 beds, our hospitals in Iola and Garnett have 25 beds each, and the Community Hospitals have 8 inpatient beds each. The passage of House Bill 2283 is vitally important to limiting unnecessary roadblocks to care and reducing burdens on our already strained workforce.

As you know, prior authorization is a requirement by health plans for patients to obtain approval of a health care serviced or medication before that care is provided. Our providers constantly struggle with the arduous prior authorization process which can inhibit their ability to provide the best care possible in a timely manner. Prior authorization approvals regularly require significant time investment on the part of our providers and administrative staff which could more effectively be spent on the actual provision and coordination of care for our patients. Given our sector's struggles with physician retention and burnout, the prior authorization process is in desperate need of reform for the betterment of medical professionals and the patients they serve.

In part, House Bill 2283 would modernize prior authorizations in Kansas by requiring an electronic process, rather than the current process which relies on phone or fax, streamline it for more timely approvals and appeals, which improves our ability to provide timely care, require peer-to-peer reviews of prior authorizations, and foster necessary transparency on prior authorization requirements.

The reforms included in House Bill 2283 will allow our providers to focus on the best possible health outcomes for our patients and lessen the bureaucratic navigation currently required to seek those outcomes. I respectfully request that you consider House Bill 22383 favorably for passage.

Sincerely,



Robert L. Olm-Shipman  
President & Chief Executive Officer, South and East Region  
Saint Luke's Health System

[saintlukeskc.org](http://saintlukeskc.org)

Saint Luke's Health System is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Services are provided on a nondiscriminatory basis.

Saint Luke's Health System shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, pregnancy status, sexual orientation, age, religion, disability, veteran status, gender identity or expression.

Saint Luke's Health System cumple con las leyes federales de derechos civiles aplicables y no discrimina por motivos de raza, color, nacionalidad, edad, discapacidad o sexo.

Saint Luke's Health System tuân thủ luật dân quyền hiện hành của Liên bang và không phân biệt đối xử dựa trên chủng tộc, màu da, nguồn gốc quốc gia, độ tuổi, khuyết tật, hoặc giới tính.

Saint Luke's Health System 遵守適用的聯邦民權法律規定，不因種族、膚色、民族血統、年齡、殘障或性別而歧視任何人。