

May 30, 2024

The Honorable Roger Marshall  
U.S. Senate  
479A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20002

The Honorable Ben Ray Luján  
U.S. Senate  
498 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Senators Marshall and Luján,

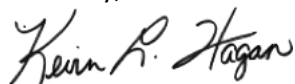
On behalf of the Patient Access Network Foundation (PAN) and the patients and families we support, I write to express our support for the *Electronic Prior Authorization for Prescription Drugs Act* (S. 4349). PAN lauds your leadership for introducing this legislation that will make long-overdue changes to the current prior authorization process that impedes the ability of patients to obtain their lifesaving prescription medication.

PAN is an independent, national 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to helping federally and commercially insured people living with life-threatening, chronic, and rare diseases with the out-of-pocket (OOP) costs for their prescribed medications. PAN provides patients with direct assistance through more than 70 disease-specific programs and collaborates with national patient advocacy organizations to provide patients with education and additional support. Since 2004, we have helped more than 1 million underinsured patients.

As you know, in recent years, providers have been inundated with burdensome prior authorization requests by health plans—forcing them to spend hours on the phone with insurance companies or on paperwork rather than with their patients. The cumbersome prior authorization process has led to high rates of provider burnout and has delayed timely access to care for patients, leading to ill-effects and poor health outcomes. Your legislation, the *Electronic Prior Authorization for Prescription Drugs Act*, would streamline prior authorization by mandating that health plans implement a secure electronic system for the transmission of these requests in accordance with technical standards outlined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services. The digitization and standardization of prior authorization for prescription drugs means that providers can focus on patient care over paperwork and ensures that patients can access their needed prescription medications without delay.

PAN appreciates your commitment to improving patient access to care and treatments that is critical to improving health. We welcome the opportunity to work with you to advance this bill and be a resource to you. Please do not hesitate to contact Amy Niles, Chief Mission Officer at [aniles@panfoundation.org](mailto:aniles@panfoundation.org) if we can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,



Kevin L. Hagan  
President and Chief Executive Officer

cc: The Honorable Roger Wicker  
The Honorable Joe Manchin  
The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse