



Physicians Caring for Texans

**House Insurance Committee**  
**Testimony by Pradeep Kumar, MD, Texas Medical Association**  
**House Bill 755 (Limited Prior-Authorization for Autoimmune Disease) by Rep. Julie Johnson**  
*March 28, 2023*

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Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Vice-Chair Johnson, and committee members, for allowing me to testify today. My name is Dr. Pradeep Kumar, and I am a gastroenterologist in Austin. I will be testifying on behalf of TMA and its more than 57,000 members across the state of Texas in **support** of House Bill 755.

This legislation is long overdue toward keeping our patients healthy in Texas. Eighty-five percent of TMA physicians report that over the past five years, prior authorization burdens have increased for the prescription medications their patients need.

Seventy-eight percent report their patients abandoned treatment due to prior authorization, and even worse, 38% report this led to the patient suffering a serious adverse event. **Additionally, 81% reported prior authorizations interfered with continuity of ongoing care.**

But it's not just about an adverse event, it's about providing a quality of life for our sickest Texans.

Again, thank you, Mr. Chairman and committee members, for allowing me to testify today in **support** of HB 755. I appreciate your work to remove burdens to patients getting the medications they need to live healthy, productive lives. I am happy to answer any questions.