

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HB 2822

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

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Hearing Date: April 6, 2021 8:00 AM

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Todd Weill

Self

Keller, TX

Everytime my child has their medication changed, we have to wait for the doctor's office to get the medication approved. While waiting my child continues to struggle.

Eric Kunish, Advocacy Chair

National Alliance on Mental Illness Central Texas Affiliate

Austin, TX

I am for this bill on the availability of anti-psychotic medications.

Marilyn Hartman

Member and Advocate, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Central Texas

Austin, TX

I strongly support this bill. Correct medications are critical for people with mental illnesses; one medication cannot necessarily be substituted for another and lead to the best results, and in fact, sometimes a different medication is counter-productive, causing increased symptoms and regression in recovery. Please pass this bill.

Tessa Bathauer, National Association of Social Workers, Inter

National Association of Social Workers-Texas Chapter (NASW/TX)

Austin, TX

April 6th, 2021

House Human Services Committee

NASW/TX Supports HB 2822 (Hull)

The National Association of Social Workers – Texas Chapter (NASW/X) wholeheartedly supports HB 2822 (Hull) which would reduce barriers to essential medications for patients who are experiencing mental illness and are enrolled in Medicaid. HB 28 would streamline the Medicaid prior authorization process by allowing health care providers to meet “prior authorization” (PA) criteria for antipsychotics for treatment of serious mental illness in adults by documenting in medical records treatment failure, contraindication, or allergic reactions.

Without access to vial medications, such as antipsychotics, mental health patients experience more ER visits, hospitalizations, homelessness, suicidal ideation, and incarceration. The current requirements of PA in Medicaid create unnecessary barriers and only provide a modest savings for the program. The minimal savings from the PA requirements does not justify the negative impacts it has on those with mental health challenges.

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NASW/TX supports HB 2822 (Hull) to help Texas experiencing mental illness get the treatment they need and deserve.

Contact:

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Allison Greer Francis, Mrs.

CHCS

San Antonio, TX

I support HB 2822.