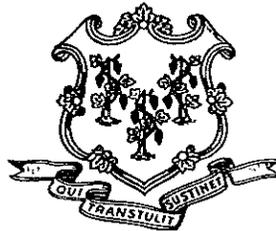


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FTR

Good afternoon Senator Crisco, Representative Megna and members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee. I would like to express my support for SB 394 AN ACT CONCERNING REQUIREMENTS FOR INSURERS' USE OF STEP THERAPY. Under this bill, if an insurer requires the use of step therapy in its policies, the use of step therapy for any prescribed drug would be limited to 30 days. If at the end of the thirty day period, the insured's treating health care provider deems such step therapy drug regimen clinically ineffective for the insured, the insurer must provide the drug requested in the original prescription. In addition, the treating healthcare provider may make a request to override the step therapy requirement even before the 30 days have elapsed. These time limits on the use of step therapy by private insurers are similar to the policy regarding step therapy enacted under Connecticut's Medicaid plan. I believe that this bill would improve the quality of care in our state and ensure that physicians rather than insurance companies practice medicine. Thank you for raising this important legislation.