Dear Councilmember –

My name is Dr. <NAME> and I am a physician who practices <location>. <If you are a resident of DC state here in which Ward you live>. I ask you today to support B24-655, the Prior Authorization Reform Act.

Prior authorization is a major burden on my ability to treat my patients. An insurer being able to delay my patients’ prescriptions for any reason prevents my patients from receiving timely care. According to the American Medical Association, a survey of physicians shows 93% report prior authorizations have delayed their patients’ care and 30% of the time a prior authorization is issued for no clear medical reason.

Prior authorizations hurt patients: in the same survey, physicians reported over 1 in 3 cases where prior authorization was used by insurers led to adverse health outcomes for their patients.

<Insert short personal story or anecdote>

B24-655 is in the Committee on Health waiting for a hearing.

<If you are writing to anyone besides Councilmembers Cheh, Allen, Bonds, Gray, and Lewis George> Please support this legislation and tell Councilmembers Cheh and Gray you want the Committee on Health to have a hearing and mark-up as soon as possible. If I can be a resource, or provide more information, please contact me at <contact info>.

 <If you are writing to Councilmembers Cheh, Allen, Bonds, Gray, or Lewis George> Thank you for supporting this bill. My physician colleagues and I will continue to push for this bill’s passage, and I am happy to be a resource to you.

If you have any questions, you can also contact Robert Hay at the Medical Society of DC at 202-355-9401 or hay@msdc.org.

Sincerely,