

September 22, 2020

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Representatives Keiser and Ferguson:

Subject: Transparency in Dental Benefits Contracting model act

Our organizations write to offer our continued full support of the **Transparency in Dental Benefits Contracting model act** being considered by the Health Insurance and Long Term Care Issues committee during its meeting on September 26.

As patients have returned to the dental office during the pandemic, there are multiple lingering insurance-related issues that could worsen because of the unique strain placed on dental offices. Balanced reforms are needed now more than ever. Adoption of the Transparency in Dental Benefits Contracting model act would advance much-needed transparency and ease transaction processes, which would be a step forward for maximizing the care available to patients within their dental plans.

The model addresses three critical issues that statehouses around the country have already considered or will be considering in the near future: freedom in network leasing, prior authorization, and virtual credit card payment. The model language on these three issues offers a balanced approach, empowering all three stakeholders in the dental transaction – patients, dentists, and insurance carriers – in a way that supports access to care and needed clarity in how dental benefits are paid.

We applaud your efforts in support of this model. If you have questions, please contact Chad Olson at olsonc@ada.org.

Sincerely,

American Dental Association
Academy of General Dentistry
American Academy of Dental Group Practice
American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology
American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology

American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
American Academy of Periodontology
American Association for Women Dentists
American Association of Endodontists
American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons
American Association of Orthodontists
American College of Prosthodontists
American Dental Education Association
American Student Dental Association
National Dental Association