



February 17, 2021

Dear Chair Liebling and Committee Members,

On behalf of the members of the Minnesota Dental Association, I write in support of the proposed policy change being brought forth in House File 838 which seeks to expand medical assistance coverage for periodontal disease. The Minnesota Dental Association fully supports this policy proposal and requests that the Minnesota Legislature support this legislative change.

Many Minnesotans lack access to dental care, which often results in unnecessary visits to the emergency room and ongoing dental issues for patients. Most of these expensive emergency room visits are preventable. This proposal will lead to better dental outcomes for patients, save on dental care expenditures, and will greatly improve access to dental care services for public program patients. We support this proposal and urge the adoption of this language.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carmelo Cinqueonce".

Carmelo Cinqueonce, MBA
Executive Director
Minnesota Dental Association