



March 15, 2023

Senator Ron Latz, Chair
Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee

Dear Chair Latz and members of the committee,

I write to you in support of SF302, a bill which seeks to add dental claims to Minnesota's All Payer Claims Database (APCD). The Minnesota Dental Association (MDA) believes that adding dental claims can positively impact research on oral health and dental benefit trends in Minnesota.

While the MDA supports the bill, we are concerned about how the data may be used and made publicly available. While not included in SF302, language in the House Companion (HF926) permits the disclosure of claim data that identifies a clinic. The MDA is concerned that this disclosure may lead to the inadvertent disclosure of provider identities, particularly in clinics in which there are only one or two dental providers. Additionally, many dental clinics include the name of the dentist in the clinic name. Should SF302 be amended, the MDA requests that any disclosure of claim data which may inadvertently identify a particular dental provider be explicitly prohibited.

We hope the concerns noted above will be taken into consideration going forward as we believe adding dental claims to the APCD can lead to improving the oral health of all Minnesotans.

Should you have any questions, please contact the MDA's Government Affairs Manager Dan Murphy at dmurphy@mndental.org or 612-767-4255.

Sincerely,

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

Carmelo Cinqueonce, MBA
Executive Director

The Minnesota Dental Association is a statewide professional membership organization representing Minnesota-licensed dentists and dental students, with a membership of over 3,000 dentists.