

March 18, 2025

Senator Ann Rest, Chair Minnesota Senate Taxes Committee Room 328, Minnesota State Capitol 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Rest and Committee Members,

On behalf of the Minnesota Dental Association, I urge you to support SF2293.

Access to dental care remains a significant challenge in Minnesota, particularly in rural and underserved communities. Many clinics face persistent workforce shortages, making it difficult for patients to receive timely care. Critical access dental (CAD) clinics are essential in addressing these gaps, yet recruiting and retaining providers in these settings remains difficult.

CAD providers serve a high volume of patients enrolled in Minnesota's Health Care Programs (MHCP), including Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare. To qualify as a CAD provider, a dentist must work in a nonprofit clinic, a federally qualified health center, a city or county owned hospital-based setting, or be affiliated with a dental higher education program. Private practice dentists may also qualify if a portion of their patient base consists of uninsured individuals or MHCP enrollees.

Given that CAD providers care for many of Minnesota's most vulnerable residents, ensuring a stable workforce is critical. The tax incentives in SF2293 will help recruit and retain skilled dental professionals in these high-need communities, strengthening access to care for those who need it most.

Please support SF2293. A strong dental workforce leads to better patient access and improved oral health outcomes.

Sincerely,

Dan Murphy, MPP

Director of Government Affairs

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About the Minnesota Dental Association

The Minnesota Dental Association is the voice of dentistry in Minnesota, representing practicing dentists. It is committed to the highest standards of oral health and access to care for all Minnesotans. Learn more at: www.mndental.org.