

American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons

9700 West Bryn Mawr Avenue Rosemont, Illinois 60018-5701

847/678-6200 800/822-6637 fax 847/678-6286

aaoms.org

Douglas W. Fain, DDS, MD, FACS President

Scott Farrell, MBA, CPA Executive Director

January 10, 2017

The Honorable Michael Burgess, MD US House of Representatives 2336 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Burgess:

On behalf of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS), the professional association representing more than 9,000 oral and maxillofacial surgeons in the United States, thank you for introducing the "Health Savings Act" (HR 35), which would eliminate certain burdensome limitations on Health Savings Accounts (HSAs) to help consumers make better healthcare decisions and control their healthcare costs.

In the current health care environment, hundreds of thousands of Americans – many of whom have middle-class incomes and are without access to dental insurance – rely on HSAs to cover out-of-pocket dental care costs. Many dental procedures, including dental implants, which are provided by oral and maxillofacial surgeons and have a better long-term success rate when compared to other less costly teeth replacement treatments, can exceed the annual HSA contribution maximums set by the Affordable Care Act (ACA). This is especially true when you factor in the rising costs of deductibles, co-pays, and prescription medication(s).

Therefore, we support the language in HR 35 to (1) double the annual HSA contribution limit for individuals and families and (2) expand HSA availability beyond just those with high deductible plans.

Passage of the "Health Savings Act" is vital to ensuring that many Americans retain the ability to obtain necessary dental care at a time when out-of-pocket expenses for health care are experiencing a great deal of fluctuation. Therefore, the AAOMS endorses the legislation and is pleased to advocate in support of its enactment. If we can be of any specific assistance to you or your staff in moving HR 35 through the legislative process, please contact Ms. Jeanne Tuerk of the AAOMS Governmental Affairs Department at 800/822-6637 ext. 4321 or jtuerk@aaoms.org.

Sincerely,

Douglas W. Fain, DDS, MD, FACS

President