

April 11, 2023

The Honorable Mike Simpson, D.M.D.
U.S. House of Representatives
2084 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Dr. Simpson:

On behalf of the undersigned dental organizations, we are writing to thank you for introducing H.R. 1422, the Strengthening Medicaid Incentives for Licensees Enrolled in Dental (SMILED) Act.

As you know, this legislation would reduce administrative burdens for dentists who participate in Medicaid. In order to help ensure access to care, a strong network of dentists is needed to see the patients served by Medicaid. Unfortunately, however, administrative requirements often discourage dentists from signing up for, or staying in, the Medicaid program.

The SMILED Act would reduce administrative burdens by simplifying credentialing so that dentists do not have to wait a long time to become Medicaid providers. This bill would encourage states to use an integrated system such as CAQH to minimize paperwork and complete the credentialing process within 90 days.

Additionally, H.R. 1422 would reduce unfair Medicaid audits by requiring that they be performed by a dentist from the same specialty and be based on clinical practice guidelines from dental organizations.

Thank you again for introducing the SMILED Act. We look forward to continuing to work with you on this important legislation. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Natalie Hales with the American Dental Association at halesn@ada.org.

Sincerely,

American Dental Association
Academy of General Dentistry
American Academy of Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology
American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
American Academy of Periodontology
American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research
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
Association of Dental Support Organizations
Hispanic Dental Association
National Dental Association