

July 22, 2026

The Honorable Angela Alsobrooks
United States Senate
374 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nanette Barragan
United States House of Representatives
2312 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senator Alsobrooks and Representative Barragan,

On behalf of the undersigned dental organizations, we write to thank you for introducing the Ensuring Kids Have Access to Medically Necessary Dental Care Act. This important legislation would strengthen dental coverage under the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) by prohibiting lifetime and annual dollar limits on dental benefits and requiring dental-only wraparound coverage for certain children.

We strongly support policies that ensure children can obtain medically necessary dental care when they need it, without arbitrary financial caps that may interrupt treatment, delay needed services, or shift costs to families. Oral health is essential to children's overall health, school readiness, nutrition, speech development, and quality of life, yet dental care remains a significant unmet health need for many children.

CHIP plays a critical role in connecting children in working families to affordable health and dental coverage, and this legislation would help ensure that dental benefits under the program are meaningful, reliable, and sufficient to meet children's clinical needs. By eliminating lifetime and annual dollar limits on dental coverage and requiring wraparound dental coverage where appropriate, the bill would reduce gaps in access, promote continuity of care, and help protect children from avoidable dental disease, pain, infection, and more costly emergency care.

We commend your leadership in advancing legislation that recognizes dental care as an integral part of children's health coverage and urges other members of Congress to support the Ensuring Kids Have Access to Medically Necessary Dental Care Act. We look forward to working together to improve dental care for children across the nation. For further discussion, please contact Natalie Hales, Senior Congressional Lobbyist, at halesn@ada.org.

Sincerely,

American Dental Association
Academy of General Dentistry
American Academy of Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology
American Academy of Orofacial Pain
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

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American Association of Public Health Dentistry
American Dental Education Association
American Student Dental Association
ASTDD Foundation, Inc.
National Dental Association
National Network for Oral Health Access
Society of American Indian Dentists