

March 6, 2024

The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon, Jr.
Chairman, House Corporations Committee
Rhode Island State House
Providence, RI 02903

Re: OPPOSED to House Bill – H 7082

Dear Chairman Solomon,

Please accept this letter of opposition to proposed House Bill #7082, which imposes an unreasonable and damaging medical loss ratio on dental insurers. I'm very concerned about serious consequences associated with this Bill, especially in relation to escalating premium costs and rising out of pocket expenses for dental care that will impact all dentally insured through Rhode Island employers.

As a Massachusetts resident, working for a Rhode Island employer, I have seen what this type of legislation can do to hurt the market. In Massachusetts, similar legislation was passed via a Ballot referendum, and it has led to disruption and uncertainty with six insurance carriers already announcing they will be leaving the small group and individual dental market.

In my experience, RI dental insurance premiums have remained stable, access to care has been excellent and members of my family have been beneficiaries of outstanding coverage. Passage of this Bill puts the excellent oral healthcare programs offered through commercial insurers to Rhode Island employers and their employees in jeopardy.

For these reasons, I strongly oppose House Bill #7082.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Rousseau".

Jennifer Rousseau
Director, Strategic Initiatives
Delta Dental of Rhode Island