

Kim Chartier  
12 Highpoint Drive  
North Smithfield, RI 02896

March 2, 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:

On behalf of myself, I am writing in opposition to the proposed legislation H 7082, which would impose a medical loss ratio on dental benefit plans.

As a resident of a border community to Massachusetts, I have seen what this type of legislation can do to disrupt the balance of access and affordability. Massachusetts residents already have less choice, and the law has not even been implemented yet.

Having seen some of the news on this item proposed by the dentists and referencing dental as the primary reason for chronic absenteeism, as a teacher for over 30 years in the City of Pawtucket teaching kindergarten and first grades, I have never experienced a situation where a student has been chronically absent due to dental issues. There are many reasons why kids may miss school, but dental care has not been a factor.

For these reasons, I strongly oppose the proposed bill as it will not do anything to improve access for kids or reduce costs.

Thank you for your consideration of our opposition on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kim Chartier". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Kim Chartier  
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