

Atlantic Pacific Smile Dental
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March 11,2020

Dear State Legislators :

I am a dentist in the Los Angeles County and I participate in Medi-Cal's dental managed care program in the county .I want you to know that i am oppsed to Governor Newsom's budget that would eliminate the dental managed care program . I very concerned about the impact it will have on my patients that benefit from the Managed care's services .

As you know, persons on Medi-cal face many challenges whether that would be financial or trying to find a job that pays wages they can actually live on or transportation, I know that often dental care falls at the bottom of that list .Managed care plans assist Medical members become knowledgeable about their dental benefit ,locate dentist's make and keep appointments and overcome language barriers.This is what dental managedoes. Additionally, the managed care plans support oral health scenings and provide transportation .

Unfortunately , it appears that the dental managed care program is being targeted for elimination based solely on the plans utilizations numbers , as compared to fee for service programs in other counties ,without taking into consideration the preventive support services they provide. I am concerned that the support that the managed care plans provide to Medi-cal members and providers will not exist under a fee for service payment system .

For these reasons , the proposed elimination of Medi-cal's dental managed care program is not in the best interest of Medical members or the state and I ask for you leadership in opposing this language .

Sincerely,

Ryan SC Lee DDS