



Kevin Kiley, Assemblyman  
State Capitol  
Suite #5126  
Sacramento, CA 94249

Date: March 25, 2020

RE: OPPOSITION TO ELIMINATE SACRAMENTO COUNTY DMC PROGRAM

Dear Assemblyman Kiley:

I am writing, as a local dentist, in opposition to a provision in the recently proposed FY 2020-21 State Budget. As the FY 2020-21 State Budget is currently written, there is a provision that would eliminate the Denti-Cal Managed Care (DMC) Program in Sacramento County. I strongly urge you, as my Assemblyman, to join me in actively opposing this provision which would eliminate the Denti-Cal Managed Care (DMC) Program in Sacramento County.

I have been in practice in Sacramento for three (3) years, and am a member multiple local and national dental organizations, including but not limited to: the Sacramento District Dental Society, the California Dental Association, the American Dental Association, the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, and the California Society of Pediatric Dentistry. I also maintain Diplomate status with the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry.

I have been a participating provider with LIBERTY Health Plan (LIBERTY/ Denti-Cal DMC) for 3 years as a Pediatric Dental Specialist. We provide much needed safety net dental care to low-income children in this program. Our offices only see children from Denti-Cal DMC on referral from their General Dentist. They often have many cavities, are generally young in age, and in some cases will even require general anesthesia due to the extent of their dental needs. As a former school teacher you should know that one of the leading causes of children missing school is untreated dental decay. Additionally, dental decay is far more prevalent in school age children than asthma. Without the Sacramento County DMC many of these children would have no other source of dental care.

I am proud of the work I am doing for my patients in partnership with LIBERTY. We work closely together to help ensure the needs of my patients are met. We jointly coordinate care and take responsibility for ensuring the highest quality oral health care is delivered so that my patients can access care on a continuous basis. Moreover, LIBERTY is committed to our community. It provides educational opportunities, screenings, and other programs free of charge for community members — regardless of whether someone is insured by LIBERTY.

The proposal to eliminate the Sacramento County DMC Program completely contradicts the major tenet of the State's new and groundbreaking Medi-Cal Healthy CA for All Initiative which would place most vulnerable populations into managed care plans over the next three-to-five years. Please do not let this happen to our community. Please oppose a FY 2020-21 State Budget that would eliminate the Sacramento County DMC

Thank you for your consideration.

If you or your staff has any questions, I can be reached at (916) 996-0384.

Sincerely,

Cuauhtemoc Gonzalez, DDS  
Diplomate, American Board of Pediatric Dentistry  
Surfside Kids Dental

