

American
Dental
Association



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August 13, 1999

The Honorable Dennis Hastert
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

We write on behalf of the 144,000 members of the American Dental Association to thank you for pledging to bring a substantive patient protection bill to the House floor when Congress reconvenes next month.

Longstanding ADA policy calls for the Association to support legislation that promotes choice and fairness for both patients and health professionals and accountability from health plans. In keeping with that policy, we are urging our members to communicate to their U.S. representatives the Association's support for the Bipartisan Consensus Managed Care Improvement Act (H.R. 2723), which closely comports with our goals.

We understand that Reps. Coburn and Shadegg plan to introduce similar legislation, and that you have promised that their effort will be the principal vehicle for floor consideration of patient protection. We look forward to seeing this bill as soon as it becomes available. Should the Coburn-Shadegg bill advance the principles of our policy goals, we will support its passage enthusiastically.

Again, thank you for taking the important step of advancing this issue. We look forward to working with you to pass into law the basic rules needed to help ensure quality health care for all privately insured Americans. Please contact Ms. Dorothy J. Moss, director of the ADA Washington Office, if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Timothy Rose".

S. Timothy Rose, D.D.S., M.S.
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John S. Zapp DDS".

John S. Zapp, D.D.S.
Executive Director

STR:JSZ:kc