



**To: House Health Care Committee**  
**From: Oregon Dental Association**  
**Re: HB 2946**

Good Afternoon Chair Greenlick and members of the committee. My name is Dr. Jill Price and I am here today on behalf of the Oregon Dental Association. I am the both the current president of the ODA and a full time practicing dentist in southeast Portland. Thank you for allowing me to speak today in support of HB 2946.

In 2010, the Oregon Dental Association introduced House Bill 3665, a bill that prevents insurance companies from setting fees for services they do not reimburse for. The bill passed through both the House and Senate unanimously. Because it passed during the February Special Session, a concern was raised about unintended consequences in passing a bill through both chambers in less than three weeks. Therefore, it was agreed that we sunset the bill in January, 2015.

House Bill 2946, introduced this session, simply removes the sunset from the 2010 legislation. The goal of this is to ensure that dentists continue to be able to provide each patient with the highest quality of care and that the patient and dentist are able to make treatment choices that first and foremost protect the health and well-being of the patient.

Artificial caps created by setting fees do not change the cost of performing these non-covered services. Caps set below the costs of services put practices in the

difficult position of shifting the costs to patients in the form of higher rates for other services or figuring out how to absorb the financial loss.

We are not aware of any opposition or problems with removing the sunset and 28 other states in the US have passed similar provisions in law since the original law in Oregon passed in 2010. We are asking legislators to make this change permanent.

Thank you again for time. I am happy to answer any questions you might have.