

To: Senate Health Care Committee
From: Oregon Dental Association
Re: House Bill 2024



May 20, 2015

All dental disease is preventable. Yet the 2012 Smile Survey showed that one in five children between 6-9 years of age had untreated decay in their primary or permanent teeth in Oregon. We need to invest more in the oral health literacy of our state so Oregon Dental Association urges your support of HB 2024.

ODA supports any additional funding the Oregon Health Authority can find to support oral health prevention and education programs. Dental health is a preventative model, and the more resources that are spent in preventing disease, the more money the state can save down the road.

House 2024 adds provides important momentum to include basic preventative services, such as dental risk assessments, for underserved children and reinforces the importance of such education to include referrals to more permanent dental homes.