



Adult Medicaid Dental Benefit Action Group

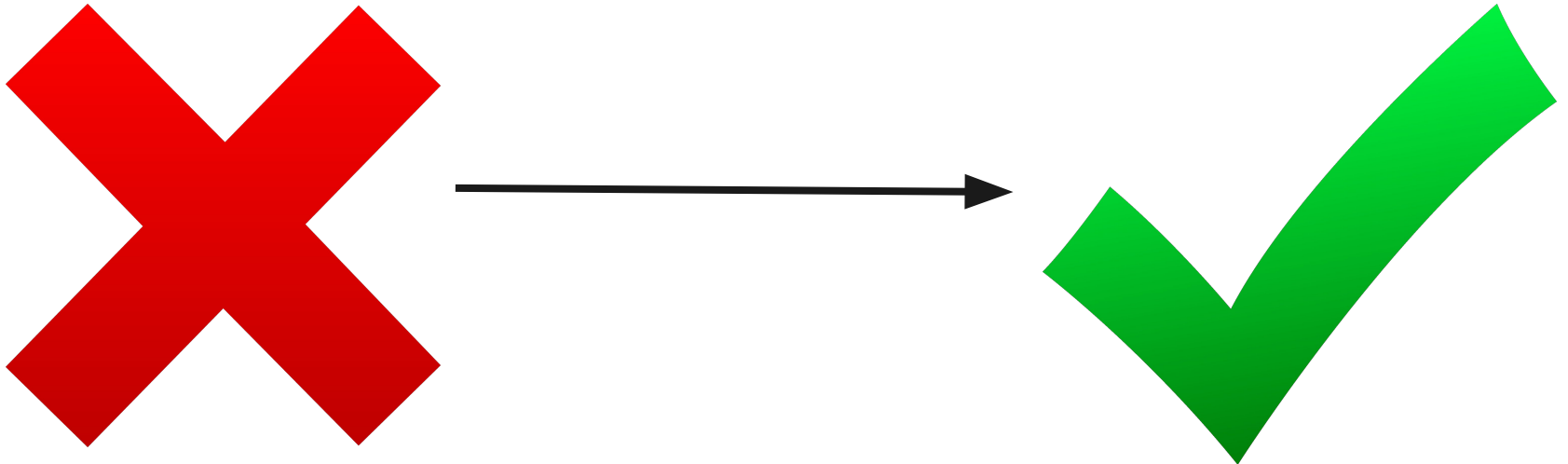
Steve Dalzell, Sue Walthour, Colby Dudal, and Katie Phillips

Why We Chose This Topic



History

For 20+ years, advocacy organizations throughout NH have worked tirelessly to ensure the passage of a bill that will provide adults on Medicaid with preventive dental care. Currently, once an individual reaches the age of 21, dental benefits drop off the Medicaid plan. Both the House and Senate bills propose a \$1,500 annual benefit to cover cleanings, fillings, and some other minor preventive care (example - filling a small cavity before it becomes something that would necessitate an extraction).



HB103 & SB422



House Bill 103 (**HB103**) was passed by a vote of 225-127 in the **New Hampshire House of Representatives**.

Senate Bill 422 (**SB422**) was passed unanimously in the **New Hampshire State Senate**.

Both bills are focused on providing an Dental Benefit for adults under Medicaid in NH

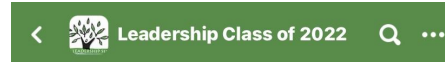
Currently the bills have crossed over and are considered OTP (ought to pass) with amendments. We are following <https://gencourt.state.nh.us/> and keeping in contact with others who are closely following these bills.

Soon - these bills will merge into one and hopefully cross the finish line!

Actions We Have Taken



To Promote Optimal Oral Health for the People of New Hampshire



This was posted on the ABLÉ NH Facebook page today and I wanted to share it with all of you. As many of you know - signing in to support a bill only takes a couple minutes and if you have the time, an email could be impactful as ... See More

WRITTEN TESTIMONY TO EMAIL TO NH SENATE Health & Human Services Comm
Send to: job.bradley@leg.state.nh.us james.gray@leg.state.nh.us Tom.Sherman@leg.state.nh.us
becky.whitely@leg.state.nh.us Kevin.Award@leg.state.nh.us cameron.lapine@leg.state.nh.us
To SIGN-IN to support HB 103: <http://www.encourt.state.nh.us/remotecommittee/senate.asp>

Your name
Street address
Town

March 28, 2022
Senate Health & Human Services Committee
Honorable Job Bradley, Chairman; Vice Chair Senator James Gray
Re: Support HB 103

Dear Chairman Bradley and members of the Senate Health & Human Services Committee,

My name is [insert name] and I live in [town]. I'm asking you to support HB 103 and, more importantly, commit to passing a benefit program and the funding for an adult dental Medicaid benefit across the policy finish line. It is imperative that the NH Senate and NH House work together to prevent "the pursuit of perfection being the enemy of the good."

Thank you for your support of SB 422. I am encouraged to know that for a 2nd year in a row, the NH Senate is in unanimous support of an adult dental Medicaid program and its funding. As you know, the disability community has been advocating for this policy improvement for several years. HB 103 and SB 422 represent the combined efforts of many concerned citizens and other professionals.

[Share 2-5 sentences about your story]

Following the 2021 Budget Committee of Conference's "eleventh hour" removal of funding for a Medicaid dental benefit, a careful compromise was achieved between members of the Liberty caucus and Rep. Joe Shapiro, prime sponsor of HB 103. It is important that a clear policy compromise be achieved regarding the slight differences between SB 422 and HB 103 prior to any Committee of Conference where the bill would be at risk.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I urge you to support HB 103.

Sincerely,
[Name]

Optional:
Add a photo of yourself/your loved one/your family!

- Met remotely with Gail Brown - Director at the New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition
- Met remotely with Lisa Beaudoin - Executive Director at ABLÉ NH
- Posted on the Leadership Class of 2022 FB page
- Spoke on the phone with Mike Auerbach from NH Dental Society



New Hampshire
DENTAL SOCIETY

Actions We Are Currently Taking & Plan on Taking



We understand the concerns dental providers have when it comes to providing preventative oral care for adults who are under Medicaid (difficult pre-authorization process, empty chairs, and reimbursement rates being the main concerns).

We need to continue to stay in touch with advocacy organizations and work with them to get dental providers on board.

Questions

