



March 7, 2025

Chair Nosse, Vice Chairs Javadi and Nelson, & Committee Members
House Committee on Behavioral and Health Care
2025 Oregon Legislative Session

I am writing to you on behalf of the Oregon Dental Hygienists' Association (ODHA) to **support HB 2597** that if passed will require the OHA and CCOs to reimburse dental providers at a minimum of 59.8% the average rate paid by insurers in Oregon.

Medicaid reimbursement for dental procedures in Oregon is less than 30% of the average fees that dental providers normally charge. The number of patients eligible for Medicaid dental services continues to increase while the number of dental providers who provide these essential services continues to decrease. Dental providers who are committed to providing access to dental care for this vulnerable population simply cannot afford to continue doing so.

HB 2597 will require use of data from the independent nonprofit Fair Health to promote sound reimbursement rate setting. The bill also directs the OHA to review and revise reimbursement rates annually. This bill will help more OHP patients receive the dental services they desperately need.

We strongly urge you to move **HB 2597** to the House with a do pass recommendation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Lisa J. Rowley'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lisa J. Rowley, MS, CDA, RDH, FADHA
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