

## **An Act relative to dental insurance assignment of benefits (H.1124) →**

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### **ABOUT**

The Massachusetts Dental Society believes that all Massachusetts residents should have access to quality oral health care and should be able to choose the dental provider that's best for them.

To preserve patient choice, An Act relative to dental insurance assignment of benefits would require all insurance carriers to permit a covered person to direct in writing that reimbursable benefits for covered services be paid directly to the treating dentist of their choice.

### **WHY WE'RE SUPPORTING**

This legislation would make assignment of dental benefits to the dentist of their choosing - already allowed by most Massachusetts dental insurers - a guarantee for all Massachusetts residents.

### **KEY PROVISIONS**

1. Require all insurance benefit providers to permit, as a provision in their policy contracts, to give patients the ability to assign benefits for covered dental services to be paid directly to the providing dentist.
2. Allow for assignment of benefits irrespective of whether the dentist has contracted with the carrier as an in-network provider.
3. Require the carrier to pay the dentist the same rate or fee as a dentist who had a contract with the carrier for the same services rendered.

### **2023-2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION ADVOCACY PRINCIPLES**

- The Massachusetts Dental Society is an advocate for dentists and patients in the Commonwealth. We are dedicated to the professional development of our member dentists and champion access to oral health care for Massachusetts residents.
- We're backing several measures this year that would ensure dental plans are more flexible, transparent, and accountable to the patients they serve.
- We'll continue to work with the Healey administration and the Massachusetts legislature to implement last year's Question 2 ballot measure and defend the will of Massachusetts voters against any attempts to weaken it.

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