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Legislative Testimony
Joint Insurance Committee Public Health Committee, & Human Services Committee
HB 6305 AAC Implementation Of The SustiNet Plan
HB 6323 AA Making Conforming Changes To The Insurance Statutes Pursuant To The Federal Patient Protection And Affordable Care Act, And Establishing A State Health Partnership Program
Monday, February 14, 2011
Brian S. Duchan, DMD

Good afternoon to the Chairs of the Insurance Committee Senator Crisco & Representative Megna, Chairs of the Public Health Committee Senator Stillman and Representative Ritter, & to the Chairs of the Human Services Committee Senator Musto and Representative Tercyak, my name is Brian Duchan. I have been practicing general dentistry for thirty-four years in Westport. I am Secretary/Treasurer of the Connecticut State Dental Association and am also a past President. I thank you for the opportunity to present this written testimony to you in support of HB's 6305, 6323.

I urge you to support HB 6323. It's passage would result in a tremendous improvement in the public's health by allowing thousands of people to obtain basic medical coverage. Extension to age 26 will help alleviate a common void in insurance coverage. I do think, however, that the dental benefits are far too minimal. Expanding them to basic preventive and restorative treatment would prove to be cost effective for the State in the long run.

Again, inclusion of dental benefits in HB6305, comparable to existing commercial insurance plans, will provide an opportunity for better overall health, as dental health is being shown in more and more studies to be directly related to medical health.

I would like to thank the Committees once more for allowing me to submit testimony. If you have any questions I would happy to talk to on the phone or answer them via email.

Sincerely,

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