

TESTIMONY

Testimony before the Insurance and Real Estate Committee

H.B. 5627 AN ACT EXTENDING THE PERIOD A CHILD, STEPCHILD OR OTHER DEPENDENT CHILD MAY RETAIN DENTAL INSURANCE COVERAGE UNDER A PARENT'S HEALTH INSURANCE POLICY

March 5, 2019

Michelle Haines Suffield, CT

Good afternoon Honorable Senator Lessor, Honorable Representative Scanlon and members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee,

My name is Michelle Haines and I am a registered voter in Suffield, CT. I am here today in my role as a Dental Hygiene student and mother.

I am here to testify in strong support of HB H.B.5627 AN ACT EXTENDING THE PERIOD A CHILD, STEPCHILD OR OTHER DEPENDENT CHILD MAY RETAIN DENTAL INSURANCE COVERAGE UNDER A PARENT'S HEALTH INSURANCE POLICY.

I care about this issue because when I was 25 years old, I had to have all 4 of my wisdom teeth extracted due to pain and if it wasn't for being on my parent's dental insurance, I would have not had the funds to pay for these services due to the high out of pocket costs without dental insurance. Between the ages of 19 and 26 are stressful enough with college and figuring out one's life. The possibility of losing your dental insurance or not being able to afford a needed treatment should not add to that stress. Dental care is very important to me because your mouth is not a small part, it connects to your entire body. Not being able to afford and receive a needed dental treatment can lead to further health issues.

I urge you to extend dental coverage on family plans to young people up to age 26. It helped me immensely when I needed it most and I want that option for future children including my daughter. Thank you for your time and for supporting young people in Connecticut.

Michelle Haines
575 Mapleton Avenue
Suffield, CT 06078