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**Legislative Testimony**  
**Insurance and Real Estate Committee**  
**Proposed HB 6088 – An Act Concerning Disclosure of Certain Third-Party**  
**Administrator Fees**  
**Thursday, February 14, 2019**

Dear Senator Lesser, Representative Scanlon, and Members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee,

My name is Dr. N. Summer Lerch. I have been practicing dentistry in Connecticut for 35 years in downtown New Haven across from Yale New-Haven Hospital. I love being a dentist and hope to be able to practice well into my seventies. It is an honest and honorable profession, one that has enabled me to give back both as a provider for our Mission of Mercy and to providing smiles for domestic violence survivors in my "Hope in a Smile" program. I am writing in support of HB 6088 – An Act Concerning Disclosure of Certain Third-Party Administrator Fees.

This bill levels the playing field in the world of contracts pertaining to certain statutory provisions for dentists, dental plans and procedures between providers and contracting health organizations. It allows for greater transparency between provider and health plan. This bills makes the business of dentistry more honorable. When I need to know what changes are coming down the road, how the reimbursement process might change, change to or if there is an affect on our patients, the contracting company is required to give me 90 days notice by fax, email or letter. It is hard to believe this honor doesn't already exist for dentistry.

Further this bill allows for consistent benefit application across medical and dental professions by mandating that the national coding standard for dental procedures to be universal. It "cleans up" the current insurance statutes to add the national standard coding for dental procedures. This streamlines the business of dentist. I will not have to have multiple forms for different companies. Or worry that I have coded something incorrectly for a particular dental plan. This means less paperwork for the office, less re-filing of benefits for our patients and quicker reimbursement for them and us. Thus a cleaner more efficient way of doing business. More honorable. More transparent.

For the reasons stated above, I urge you to adopt HB 6088.

Respectfully Submitted,

N. Summer Lerch, DDS, FAGD, AAACD  
2 Church Street So.  
Suite 311  
New Haven, CT 06519  
o: 203-624-5256  
c: 203-980-9663