Dear Speaker Pelosi, Chairman Neal, and Chairman Pallone,

Thank you for your steadfast leadership to address the on-going oral health crisis many families in America face. As organizations and advocates representing health care consumers, older adults, people with disabilities, patients, providers, industry, social service, and others, we are writing to express our appreciation and support for the legislation advanced in the Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce Committees that would add oral health coverage to Medicare Part B.

This extension of Medicare Part B to include dental, vision and hearing coverage is a critical piece of rebuilding our nation’s health and wellbeing. Dental coverage that will ensure that oral health care is no longer unaffordable and out of reach is particularly important to economic recovery and health equity.

- Adding oral health coverage to Medicare Part B would allow 60 million older adults and people with disabilities to not only be able to get important dental care, but to also be healthier, have lower health care costs, and be better able to get and keep jobs.
- Even before the pandemic, roughly half of Medicare enrollees did not have a dental visit in the past year—often skipping care due to cost. Moreover, 68% of Black beneficiaries and 61% of Hispanic beneficiaries did not have a dental visit in the same year.

Medicare oral health coverage is overwhelmingly popular, with a recent poll finding nearly 9 in 10 voters support adding oral health coverage to Medicare. When asked which health care issues Congress should work on this year, adding Medicare dental coverage – alongside vision and hearing coverage – is far and away the most popular health care proposal that is currently on the table.

We appreciate the hard work from leadership and the committees to address and prioritize dental coverage in Medicare Part B as part of Budget Reconciliation legislation. The millions of older adults and people with disabilities across this country who rely on Medicare will finally be able to afford care that too many currently go without due to the cost.

We look forward to working with all of you, as well as your colleagues in the Senate, to move Medicare dental coverage forward and where possible, to strengthen the legislation before final passage. Our priority is to ensure that people who rely on Medicare for their health care can get the most robust dental coverage possible as quickly as is feasible. Specifically, we support improvements that would ensure that major dental services (which are the hardest to afford) are covered at 80%, in line with other Part B services, and that dental coverage reaches Medicare enrollees sooner than seven years from now.

Thank you for your leadership and for continuing the fight to ensure that families have access to affordable and quality health care, including oral health care. We look forward to working with you to secure passage of the final package.
Sincerely,

**National Organizations**

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<td>Alliance for Retired Americans</td>
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<td>American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research</td>
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<td>American Association of Public Health Dentistry</td>
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<td>American Association on Health and Disability and Lakeshore Foundation</td>
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<td>American Geriatrics Society</td>
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<td>American Society of Nephrology</td>
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<td>Arthritis Foundation</td>
<td>Oral Health Progress and Equity Network (OPEN, Inc.)</td>
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<td>Association of Oncology Social Work (AOSW)</td>
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<td>Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors</td>
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<td>Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD)</td>
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<td>Brain Injury Association of America</td>
<td>The AIDS Institute</td>
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<td>CareQuest Institute for Oral Health</td>
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<td>Center for Medicare Advocacy</td>
<td>The Gerontological Society of America</td>
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<td>Families USA</td>
<td>United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS)</td>
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### USAging

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<td>Arizona</td>
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<td>Florida</td>
<td>Florida Health Justice Project</td>
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### Alaska Primary Care Association

- Alaska Primary Care Association

### Alabama Head Start Association

- Alabama Head Start Association

### Lakeshore Foundation

- Lakeshore Foundation

### Alabama Head Start Association

- Lakeshore Foundation

### Arizona Oral Health Coalition

- Arizona Oral Health Coalition

### Arizona

- Arizona Oral Health Coalition
  - Arizona Oral Health Coalition
  - Asian Pacific Community in Action
  - AZ AANHPI for Equity
  - Children's Action Alliance
  - Island Liaison, Inc.
  - Unlimited Potential

### Arkansas

- Boston Mountain Rural Health Center, Inc

### Colorado Consumer Health Initiative

- Colorado Consumer Health Initiative

### Community Dental Health NPO

- Community Dental Health NPO

### Davis Phinney Foundation

- Davis Phinney Foundation

### Connecticut

- New Milford Senior Center

### The Connecticut Oral Health Initiative, Inc.

- The Connecticut Oral Health Initiative, Inc.

### Wethersfield Social and Youth

- Wethersfield Social and Youth

### California

- Asian Resources, Inc
  - Asian Resources, Inc
  - Butte County Public Authority
  - California Pan-Ethnic Health Network
  - Case Management
  - Chinese Community Health Care Association
  - City/County of San Francisco DAS/APS
  - Commission on Aging - San Joaquin county
  - Cornerstone Dental Services

### Delaware Dental Hygienists' Association

- Delaware Dental Hygienists' Association

### Delaware Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health

- Delaware Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health

### Florida Health Justice Project

- Florida Health Justice Project
**Georgia**
Altamaha Heart of Georgia Area Agency on Aging

**Hawaii**
Hawai‘i Children's Action Network
Hawai‘i Oral Health Coalition
Hawaii Public Health Institute

**Illinois**
Heartland Alliance
Progress Center

**Indiana**
Indiana Primary Health Care Association

**Kansas**
Oral Health Kansas, Inc.

**Kentucky**
Kentucky Oral Health Coalition
Kentucky Youth Advocates
McNary Group

**Louisiana**
EXCELth, Inc.
THEGAL

**Massachusetts**
Health Care for All MA

**Maryland**
Maryland Dental Action Coalition

**Maine**
Maine Equal Justice
The Bingham Program

**Michigan**
Kent County Oral Health Coalition
Michigan Oral Health Coalition
Neighborhood Service Organization
Propylon Nonprofit Housing

**Minnesota**
Minnesota Community Care East Side Dental
West Central Initiative

**Mississippi**
Smiles To Go

**Missouri**
Alpha Terrace Apartments
Integrate Health

**New Hampshire**
ABLE NH (Advocates Building Lasting Equality in NH)
New Hampshire Public Health Association
New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition

New Jersey
Bergen County Department of Health

New Mexico
Senior Citizens’ Law Office, Albuquerque, NM

New York
Center for Elder Law & Justice
Columbia County Office of the Aging
NYU College of Dentistry
Oral Health Nursing Education and Practice Program (OHNEP)
Santa Fe Group
Support For People with Oral and Head and Neck Cancer (SPOHNC)

North Carolina
North Carolina Justice Center

Ohio
Mayfield Manor
Ohio Alliance for Retired Americans Educational Fund
Oral Health Ohio

Oklahoma
Oklahoma Oral Health Coalition
Southern Plains Tribal Health Board

Oregon
AllCare Health
Health Care for All Oregon
Klamath Basin Oral Health Coalition
South Coast Oral Health Coalition

Pennsylvania
Center for Advocacy for the Rights and Interests of the Elderly (CARIE)
One Pennsylvania
PA Coalition for Oral Health

South Carolina
City of Charleston Mayor's Office on Aging
Our Mother's Voice

Tennessee
Faith That Heals Tennessee Conference, United Methodist Church
TNUMC Board of Church and Society
Wesley Living Woodland Homes

Texas
Coalition of Texans with Disabilities
Gulf Coast ADAPT
Texas Oral Health Coalition, Inc
Texas Parent to Parent
UUFHCT

Utah
Senior Charity Care Foundation
**Virginia**

Senior Charity Care Foundation
Birth in Color RVA
Carlson Foley Enterprises LLC
Central Virginia Health Services
Community Access Network Dental Center
Culpeper Wellness Foundation
Free Clinic of Central Virginia
Healthy Living and Learning Center
Hemophilia Association of the Capital Area
Home Smiles Inc
Jon C Burr Foundation
Legal Aid Justice Center
New Horizons Healthcare
Northern Neck Middlesex Free Health Clinic
Piedmont Regional Dental Clinic
Prince William NAACP
Sjogren's Foundation
The CornerStone Free Health Clinic
The Free Clinic of Culpeper
Tri-Area Community Health
Virginia Association of Free and Charitable Clinics
Virginia Community Healthcare Associations
Virginia Department of Health
Virginia Dental Hygienists' Association
Virginia Health Catalyst
Virginia Hemophilia Foundation
Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy
Virginia Organizing

Virginia Rural Health Association

**Vermont**

Southern Vermont Area Health Education Center

**Washington**

Alliance of Dental Hygiene Practitioners
Rural Resources Community Action
Statewide Poverty Action Network

**Wisconsin**

Family Health Center of Marshfield, Inc.
Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network

**West Virginia**

West Virginia Dental Hygienists' Association
West Virginia Oral Health Coalition