

May 27, 2021

The Honorable Jacky Rosen
United States Senate
713 Hart Senate Office
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins
United States Senate
413 Dirksen Senate Office
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Rosen and Collins:

On behalf of the 162,000 members of the American Dental Association (ADA), we are writing to you in support of S. 958, the Maximizing Outcomes through Better Investments in Lifesaving Equipment for (MOBILE) Health Care Act.

As an organization dedicated to improving the oral health of the public, the ADA recognizes the important role that mobile dental units play in bringing care to underserved areas and populations, including children and the elderly. Community-based care like mobile units and Community Health Centers are integral to the ADA's Action for Dental Health (ADH) initiative, which is a national campaign to provide care to people who suffer from untreated dental disease, strengthen and expand the dental safety net, and bring dental disease prevention and education into communities.

The MOBILE Health Care Act would expand the allowable use of the Health Center Program New Access Points (NAP) Grant Program to include acquiring, leasing, expanding, or renovating mobile medical equipment or vehicles; leasing, expanding, or renovating an existing Community Health Center building; or constructing a new Community Health Center building. This expanded flexibility would allow health centers to use grant funds in the best way possible to reach underserved communities.

While mobile units are important for access to care, they may visit communities only at certain times, and all patients need a permanent dental home. The ADA recommends that the mobile units have a process in place to refer patients to a Community Health Center or private dental office where they will receive ongoing care.

Thank you again for your work on this important legislation. The ADA looks forward to continuing to work with you to expand access to oral health care. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Natalie Hales at halesn@ada.org.

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Sincerely,



Daniel J. Klemmedson, D.D.S., M.D.
President



Kathleen T. O'Loughlin, D.M.D., M.P.H.
Executive Director

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