

August 20, 2020

The Honorable Marsha Blackburn  
U.S. Senate  
357 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Blackburn:

On behalf of our 163,000 dentist members, the American Dental Association (ADA) would like to thank you for introducing the Eliminating the Provider Relief Fund Tax Penalties Act of 2020 (S. 4525). As you know, this bill clarifies that Provider Relief Funds (PRF) are not taxable as income, and expenses attributable to PRF are tax deductible. This relief is critical to reducing tax burdens on health care providers that could limit their ability to continue practicing in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

After closing completely or limiting their practices to emergency-only dental care at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, dentists across the country have reopened their practices. In order to safeguard patients, their staff, and themselves from the spread of COVID-19, dentists have implemented new infection control procedures and are utilizing enhanced personal protective equipment (PPE).

As you are keenly aware, the costs of these health and safety efforts are having a considerable economic impact on businesses. This bill would ensure that dentists, regardless of taxpaying status, will not be subject to taxes on aid provided through PRF. By guaranteeing that relief funds do not add to a provider's taxes, dental practices will be able to utilize the full value of the benefit. Consequently, a reduction in the small business dentist owner's tax burden would help dental practices stay open, retain their employees, and provide their patients with care.

Again, the ADA thanks you for introducing S. 4525 and for your leadership on this issue. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Megan Mortimer at [mortimerm@ada.org](mailto:mortimerm@ada.org).

Sincerely,

Chad P. Gehani, D.D.S.  
President

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

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