

**Lou Mansolillo**

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**From:** judypratt@verizon.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 22, 2025 8:23 PM  
**To:** House Corporations Committee  
**Subject:** H6155

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to you in support of House Bill H6155. I have been a practicing dentist in Rhode Island for 30 years this year. A few years ago I made the very difficult decision to go Out of Network (OON) with Delta Dental of Rhode Island. Their low reimbursement rates made it impossible for me to maintain practicing with the same standard of care my team and I pride ourselves on. I also was finding it impossible to keep up with the very competitive staffing environment we find ourselves in. I am OON with most insurance plans and the majority of them do not restrict their patients to only seeing in-network dentists. The patients pay good money for their premiums and should get to choose their providers without penalty. Delta Dental of Rhode Island has chosen to eliminate patient benefits on certain plans if they choose to see an OON dentist. DDRI also reduces the allowances of what the patient is reimbursed if they choose to see an OON dentist. There is a completely different fee schedule for OON Doctors that is significantly less than their in-network rates. They don't reduce the premiums the patient is paying.

I had patients that I had been seeing for many, many years forced to leave my practice because DDRI eliminated their benefits and they would not get any reimbursement for choosing to see me and would be unable to use their dental benefits. They also sent letters to employers and to patients encouraging them to see In-network dentists and leave the practice.

This bill would amend our current Assignment of Benefit bill and prevent them from this practice. Patients should have the right to see the Dentist they choose and trust without penalty. Other Delta plans I deal with do not follow this same protocol. Patients get the same reimbursement benefit regardless of who they choose to see. At a time when patients are having issues with Access to Care in RI why are we allowing DDRI to make it even harder.

I would be happy to discuss this further or answer any questions you may have

Respectfully,

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