

Lou Mansolillo

From: Alexander Gomes <alexander.gomes123@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 13, 2026 8:33 PM
To: House Corporations Committee
Subject: H8381 - Support

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Dear Chairman Solomon and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dr. Alex Gomes, and I am an Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon practicing in Rhode Island. I am writing to strongly support H8381 because providers should not have to pay to receive reimbursements for care that has already been delivered to patients.

In my practice, we routinely perform medically necessary surgical procedures—often urgent and complex in nature. Like many dental providers, we are increasingly steered into virtual credit card payments that carry processing fees. These fees take a percentage of every reimbursement, and over time this represents a significant financial loss—often thousands of dollars annually—that would otherwise go toward patient care, staffing, and maintaining a safe surgical environment. This bill ensures that dentists and specialists have access to no-cost payment options such as paper checks, ACH, and EFT. Currently, these options are often obscured or more difficult to access, while virtual credit cards are presented as the default. Removing these hidden costs restores fairness and ensures that providers receive the full value of the reimbursements intended for patient care.

Beyond the financial impact, the current system creates real operational strain. My staff spends valuable time navigating insurance portals, disputing unnecessary processing fees, and attempting to secure alternative payment methods. These inefficiencies add administrative burden to practices already managing complex scheduling, surgical care, compliance, and insurance coordination.

For surgical practices in particular, where overhead and staffing demands are higher, these unnecessary costs and inefficiencies directly affect our ability to deliver timely, high-quality care to patients.

Insurance reimbursements should go toward patient care—not toward avoidable payment processing fees. Ensuring that payments reach their intended purpose is a straightforward matter of fairness, transparency, and sound policy.

H8381 restores a fair and transparent payment process. It aligns reimbursement practices with the fundamental principles of insurance and helps keep patient care at the center of every healthcare dollar.

I respectfully urge you to support passage of this bill.

Sincerely,

Alexander Gomes, DMD
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon
Oral Maxillofacial Surgery & Dental Implant Center, PC