

SB528

Measure Title:	RELATING TO HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONERS.
Report Title:	Health Care Practitioners; Orthodontic Services; Orofacial Anomalies; Health Insurance; Covered Services
Description:	Expands the pool of orthodontists who are eligible to perform medically necessary orthodontic services for treatment of certain orofacial anomalies covered by health insurance.
Companion:	HB677
Package:	None
Current Referral:	CPH
Introducer(s):	BAKER, ENGLISH, INOUYE, KEITH-AGARAN, K. RHOADS, S. Chang, Fevella, K. Kahele, Moriwaki, Nishihara, Ruderman, Shimabukuro



February 13, 2019

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
The Honorable Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Re: SB 528 – Relating to Health Care Practitioners

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Committee Members:

The Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify on SB 528, which expands the pool of orthodontists who are eligible to perform medically necessary orthodontic services for treatment of certain orofacial anomalies covered by health insurance.

HMSA supports the intent of this measure to increase access to treatment of certain orofacial anomalies and would like to provide comments. Over the interim, we worked closely with Hawaii Pacific Health on addressing the issue raised by a similar measure last year. We are happy to announce that as of January 1, 2019, HMSA has implemented a revised policy regarding orthodontic treatment for orofacial anomalies.

Our policy allows orthodontic treatment of orofacial anomalies to be conducted by state licensed dentists with a specialization in orthodontics who are graduates of an orthodontic postgraduate program accredited by the American Dental Association (ADA). As the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) is part of the ADA, we believe our policy changes have adequately addressed the concerns raised by this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 528.

Sincerely,

Pono Chong
Vice President, Government Relations



Friday, February 15, 2019 at 9:30am
Conference Room 229

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

To: Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

From: Joan Meister, MD
Pediatrics
Kapi'olani Cleft and Craniofacial Center

Re: **SB 528 – Relating To Health Care Practitioners
Providing Comments**

My name is Joan Meister, MD and I am a pediatrician at Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women and Children (Kapi'olani). Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women and Children (Kapi'olani) is an affiliate of Hawaii Pacific Health. Kapi'olani Medical Center is the state's only maternity, newborn and pediatric specialty hospital. It is also a tertiary care, medical teaching and research facility. Specialty services for patients throughout Hawai'i and the Pacific Region include intensive care for infants and children, 24-hour emergency pediatric care, air transport, maternal-fetal medicine and high-risk perinatal care.

I am writing to offer comments on SB 528 which amends the definition of "orthodontic services" and expands the pool of orthodontists who are eligible to perform orthodontic services for the treatment of orofacial anomalies for which health insurance coverage is required. With the expended definition, a licensed dentist who has completed an orthodontic residency program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation may perform the procedures needed to correct orofacial anomalies.

We are aware of the issues stemming from the limited number of orthodontists who perform the corrective procedures and who are certified by the American Board of Orthodontics (ABO). We note that the original bill leading to the passage of "Any's Law" resulted from the collaborative efforts of HPH, the Department of Health (DOH) and HMSA. Discussions with HMSA have culminated in a clarification of its policy regarding the accreditation of orthodontists such that health insurance coverage for the orthodontic services needed to correct orofacial anomalies will not be limited by the type of accreditation held by the orthodontist. Since those conversations have occurred, the situation has now been resolved.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Friday, February 15, 2019 at 9:30am
Conference Room 229

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

To: Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

From: Michael Robinson
Vice President – Government Relations & Community Affairs

Re: **SB 528 – Relating to Health Care Practitioners**
Comments

My name is Michael Robinson, Vice President, Government Relations & Community Affairs at Hawai'i Pacific Health. Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system comprised of its four medical centers – Kapi'olani, Pali Momi, Straub and Wilcox and over 70 locations statewide with a mission of creating a healthier Hawai'i.

I am writing to provide comments on SB 528 which amends the definition of “orthodontic services” and expands the pool of orthodontists who are eligible to perform orthodontic services for the treatment of orofacial anomalies for which health insurance coverage is required. With the expended definition, a licensed dentist who has completed an orthodontic residency program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation may perform the procedures needed to correct orofacial anomalies.

HPH is aware of the issues stemming from the limited number of orthodontists who perform the corrective procedures and who are certified by the American Board of Orthodontics (ABO). We note that the original bill leading to the passage of “Anya’s Law” resulted from the collaborative efforts of HPH, the Department of Health (DOH) and HMSA. Discussions with HMSA have culminated in a revision of its policy regarding the accreditation of orthodontists such that health insurance coverage for the orthodontic services needed to correct orofacial anomalies will not be limited. Since those conversations have occurred, the situation has now been resolved.

HPH is committed to continuing to work with DOH, HMSA and other stakeholders in an effort on this important matter.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

SB-528

Submitted on: 2/14/2019 8:52:50 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/15/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments: