



State of Maine | 132nd Legislature
Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

February 4, 2026

In support of:

LD 2123, An Act to Improve Dental Care Access for Children by Modifying the MaineCare Reimbursement Methodology for the Provision of Anesthesia for Certain Dental Services

Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of **LD 2123**. My name is Gray McGinnis, and I am Vice President of Government Relations for the **Association of Dental Support Organizations (ADSO)**, a national nonprofit representing Dental Support Organizations that provide non-clinical business support to dental practices so dentists can focus on patient care. ADSO members support more than **15,000 dentists, 8,500 practices**, and help facilitate approximately **30 million patient visits annually** across **48 states**. The ADSO represents Dental Support Organizations (DSOs) before the public, policymakers, and the media. In Maine, for example, Aspen Dental, Heartland and 42 North are all DSOs with more than a dozen dental practice locations.

LD 2123 addresses a barrier to dental care access for children enrolled in MaineCare: **inadequate reimbursement for medically necessary deep sedation and general anesthesia**. The result can include delayed treatment, prolonged pain, and worsening oral health outcomes for vulnerable children. ADSO supports measures that improve patient care and increase access to dental care for all patients.

This bill makes targeted, responsible changes to MaineCare's reimbursement methodology by:

- Providing supplemental payments for anesthesia when dental services are delivered in ambulatory surgical centers serving a high proportion of MaineCare patients;
- Removing arbitrary time limits on anesthesia services for children when those services are medically necessary; and
- Establishing clear, predictable reimbursement rates using existing dental billing codes.

These changes are **narrowly tailored**, apply only in high-MaineCare settings, and are designed to ensure that providers can deliver care without operating at a financial loss. LD 2123 does not expand benefits or eligibility—it simply makes existing benefits workable in practice.

Dental Support Organizations help practices operate efficiently, invest in modern facilities, and expand capacity, particularly in underserved areas. However, even the most efficient practice model cannot overcome reimbursement structures that fail to cover the cost of care. LD 2123 helps correct that imbalance and allows providers to serve more children safely and sustainably.

For these reasons, the ADSO strongly supports LD 2123 and urges the Committee to vote **Ought to Pass**.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. McGinnis', is positioned above a horizontal line.

Gray McGinnis
VP of Government Relations
The Association of Dental Support Organizations