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Admitted in: ME

April 26, 2021

Senator Heather Sanborn  
Representative Denise Tepler  
c/o Legislative Information Office  
100 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

To the Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services:

This letter is in support of LD 26, An Act to Allow a Dentist to Administer Botulinum Toxin and Dermal Fillers, as amended by language to be offered by the Sponsor that has been approved by the Board of Dental Practice.

Our firm represents the Northern Maine Oral and Facial Surgery Associates (NMOFS). NMOFS is the only oral surgery option north of Bangor and one of only two oral surgery practices in the State that accepts MaineCare members without qualification. The other provider, located in Cumberland County, currently has about a four year wait for a MaineCare member to get an appointment.

Senator Brenner's amendment ensures that persons who have completed post graduate training and certification in oral and maxiofacial surgery from a program certified by the Commission on Dental Accreditation can continue to administer botulinum toxin and dermal fillers for disfigurement or disjunction. Dr. Hank Ford of NMOFS has been practicing in Maine for more than twenty years, and is one of several oral surgeons in Maine who fit this description.

According to the American Association of Oral and Maxiofacial Surgeons (AAOMS), approximately 32 other states specifically address this point in statute and the vast majority of these states explicitly allow oral surgeons to perform these procedures. The language of the amendment is substantially similar to that from the State of Indiana.

Further, the AAOMS has adopted a policy to establish credentialing standards for oral and maxillofacial surgeons who perform facial cosmetic surgery. These credentialing standards accord with the institutional credentialing processes

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currently established for all specialists who perform facial cosmetic procedures. The granting of privileges is based on the education, training, experience, current competence and health status of the individual surgeon.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Newell A. Augur

NAA:JQ

cc: Dr. Hank Ford