

## **Medicaid Dental Provider Reimbursement Rate – Senator Allen Christensen**

### **Budget**

Appropriate 2 million ongoing state dollars to the Medicaid dental provider reimbursement line item.

Department of Health has indicated that they would increase fee for service rates in the rural counties and ask the dental managed care plans to increase their fee schedule and ask for reporting to ensure that the increase made it to the actual practitioners.

We may want to contemplate intent language to provide clear direction to the Department and dental care plans about the legislative intent.

### **Performance measures**

Dental providers are concerned about their ability to be able to continue to serve Medicaid patients because of the current reimbursement rate.

The first key measure should be to see whether increasing the rate increases the number of dental providers offering to serve Medicaid providers?

The second key measure should be to see whether more patients are able to see a dentist within a specified timeframe?

Finally, are our rates becoming more competitive with CHIP and surrounding states?