



**IDAHO STATE DENTAL ASSOCIATION**

January 22, 2021

Senate Commerce and Human Resources Committee

Dear Senator Patrick and Committee Members,

On behalf of the over 800 members of the Idaho State Dental Association, we write in support of S1012 amending the Dental Practice Act, Section 54-924. Simply stated, this amendment preserves a patient's right to file a complaint with the Idaho State Board of Dentistry.

We support this amendment due to the unfortunate fact that there are Idaho licensed dentists aligning with companies providing dental services to Idaho citizens, who require patients waive their right to file a complaint should they have issues with their treatment. Without the change included in S1012, these companies and the dentists aligned with them, are blocking the patient's right to communicate concerns with our State Board of Dentistry. The patient is then left to deal with the resulting costs to correct the damage, and the dentist who harmed the patient has no accountability for their actions. Clearly this current practice goes against the best interest of the patient and violates a basic consumer right.

We respectfully ask for your yes vote on S1012.

Sincerely,

Steven Bruce, DMD  
ISDA Legislative Committee Chair

Linda Swanstrom  
ISDA Executive Director

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Linda Swanstrom

**ISDA Vision Statement:**

Empowering the dental profession to achieve optimal health for all Idahoans.

**ISDA Mission Statement:**

Help Idaho dentists succeed and support the advancement of

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