

August 26, 2024

The Honorable Joe Manchin  
306 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Manchin:

On behalf of our 159,000 members of the American Dental Association (ADA), I want to thank you for adding an amendment at the recent Senate Appropriations Committee mark-up regarding ERISA and its overbroad preemption of state insurance laws.

We applaud your efforts to bring attention to the misplaced notion that there is an all-encompassing ERISA preemption for self-funding insurance plans as they relate to state law. Your amendment to S.2624, is critical to ensuring state laws are not violated by requiring a report on any state law violations by stand-alone dental and vision insurance plans. The overly broad ERISA preemption has caused serious division in the states and caused confusion in the marketplace regarding state insurance reform and the application of these efforts regarding ERISA established plans. When insurance laws are ignored, patients are exposed to greater risks of harm. The ADA is pleased to support your amendment that was adopted, and we look forward to the full Senate's consideration before session's end.

Thank you again for your leadership on this critical issue. We look forward to working with you and your colleagues to ensure that ERISA preemption is properly applied. If you, or your staff, have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me or Chris Tampio, Director of Congressional Affairs, (202) 789.5178 or [tampioc@ada.org](mailto:tampioc@ada.org).

Sincerely,

James Schulz  
Senior Vice President of Government and Public Affairs