

HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE AMENDMENT  
Committee on Public & Behavioral Health & Human Services.  
HB22-1292 be amended as follows:

- 1 Amend printed bill, page 2, after line 1 insert:  
**"SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **repeal and reenact, with amendments,** 25-23-101 as follows:  
**25-23-101. Legislative declaration.** (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HEREBY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:
  - 6 (a) AS RESOLVED IN THE 2000 LEGISLATIVE SESSION, CHILDREN'S  
7 ORAL HEALTH REMAINS A PRIORITY FOR HEALTH EQUITY IN COLORADO;  
8 (b) ORAL HEALTH EQUITY FOR CHILDREN CAN BE ADVANCED BY  
9 IMPROVED ACCESS TO CARE, BUT ALSO THROUGH EVIDENCED-BASED  
10 PREVENTION ACTIVITIES;  
11 (c) DENTISTS AND DENTAL HYGIENISTS ARE CRITICAL PARTNERS  
12 IN ADDRESSING THE ORAL HEALTH-CARE NEEDS OF CHILDREN AND  
13 UNDERSERVED COLORADANS IN RURAL AND LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES;  
14 (d) HOWEVER, COLORADO COMMUNITIES OFTEN ENCOUNTER  
15 DIFFICULTY RECRUITING AND RETAINING DENTAL PROFESSIONALS TO  
16 SERVE THESE COMMUNITIES;  
17 (e) MANY DENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS, PARTICULARLY  
18 DENTISTS, GRADUATE WITH LARGE EDUCATION LOANS NEEDED TO FINANCE  
19 THEIR PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION;  
20 (f) FURTHER, DENTAL CARE IS PROVIDED PREDOMINANTLY  
21 THROUGH INDIVIDUAL AND SMALL GROUP PRACTICES, WHICH CAN LIMIT  
22 THE OPPORTUNITY FOR DENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS TO PROVIDE A  
23 SUBSTANTIAL VOLUME OF ORAL HEALTH SERVICES AT REDUCED COST WHILE  
24 STILL MAINTAINING REVENUES NECESSARY TO SUPPORT THE FIXED COSTS  
25 OF OPERATING A DENTAL PRACTICE;  
26 (g) WHEN PARTNERED WITH THE STATE, DENTAL HEALTH  
27 PROFESSIONALS PROVIDE ACCESS TO ORAL CARE FOR PEOPLE IN NEED OF  
28 SERVICES, AND REDUCING THE EDUCATION LOAN DEBT OF THESE  
29 PROFESSIONALS ENSURES THEY HAVE MORE RESOURCES TO CARE FOR  
30 UNDERSERVED CHILDREN AND COMMUNITIES; AND  
31 (2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER FINDS AND DECLARES THAT  
32 COLORADO WILL CONTINUE ITS COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO  
33 DENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS WHO REQUEST EDUCATION LOAN  
34 REPAYMENT AND TO ALSO USE FUNDS TO SUPPORT CHILDREN'S ORAL  
35 HEALTH THROUGH COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEALTH INTERVENTIONS.".
- 36 Rerumber succeeding sections accordingly.

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