



# CALIFORNIA SOCIETY OF PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY

May 11, 2010

The Honorable Elaine Alquist  
Chair, Senate Committee on Health  
State Capitol, Room 2191  
Sacramento, California 95814

**Re: AB 1783 (Hayashi)      Position: Support**

Dear Senator Alquist:

The California Society of Pediatric Dentistry strongly supports the passage of AB 1783 (Hayashi), which would allow a dentist enrolled as a Denti-Cal provider changing practice location within the same county to continue uninterrupted enrollment by the filing of a simple change of address form with the Department of Health Care Services.

Presently, a dentist changing practice location must complete a new enrollment package, the approval of which can take the better part of a year and requires the submission of significant information and documentation already on file with the Department of Health Care Services. Most important, when the change of practice location is within the same county, the dentist has the ability, and usually the intent, to provide a continuum of service to existing patients. Any interruption in Denti-Cal enrollment that occurs as the result of the new enrollment application process can disrupt existing treatment plans, suspend or delay needed services, and, if prolonged, disturb or even sever the dentist-patient relationship.

This bill would establish parity with Medi-Cal procedures for a physician changing practice location within a county, remove an unnecessary administrative barrier that discourages dentist participation in the Medi-Cal dental program, provide no increased risk of fraudulent billing, and preserve a patient's access to his or her Denti-Cal provider.

For these reasons, we urge the Committee to approve the passage of AB 1783.

David Rothman, DDS  
President, California Society of Pediatric Dentistry

c:      Officers and Directors, California Society of Pediatric Dentistry  
        Dr. Paul Reggiardo, Public Policy Advocate, California Society of Pediatric Dentistry  
        Dr. Ray Stewart, Executive Director, California Society of Pediatric Dentistry

The California Society of Pediatric Dentistry is the professional membership organization representing California's nearly 600 pediatric dental providers, educators and researchers. Our members provide primary and specialty care to infants, children, adolescents and patients with special medical and developmental needs. The mission of the California Society of Pediatric Dentistry is to serve its members and the public by advocating for the optimal oral health of infants, children, and adolescents.