



American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons

William J. Nelson, DDS
President

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June 4, 2015

The Honorable Steve Stivers
US House of Representatives
1022 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Stivers:

On behalf of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS), the professional association representing more than 9,000 oral and maxillofacial surgeons in the United States, thank you for introducing the “RAISE Health Benefits Act” (HR 1185) which would eliminate certain burdensome limitations on Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs) and help enable consumers to make better healthcare decisions and control their healthcare costs.

In the current health care environment, hundreds of thousands of Americans – many of whom have middle-class incomes and are without access to dental insurance – rely on FSAs to cover out-of-pocket dental care costs. Many dental procedures, including dental implants, which are provided by oral and maxillofacial surgeons and have a better long-term success rate when compared to other less costly teeth replacement treatments, can exceed the annual FSA contribution maximums set by the Affordable Care Act (ACA). This is especially true when you factor in the rising costs of deductibles, co-pays, and prescription medication(s).

Therefore, we support the language in HR 1185 to (1) cancel the FSA “use-it-or-lose-it” rule (2) increase the annual FSA contribution limit to \$5,000 and (3) allow families with more than two dependents to deposit up to \$500 a year to their FSA for each additional dependent.

Passage of the “RAISE Health Benefits Act” is vital to ensuring that many Americans retain the ability to obtain necessary dental care at a time when out-of-pocket expenses for health care are experiencing a great deal of fluctuation. Therefore, the AAOMS endorses the legislation and is pleased to advocate in support of its enactment. If we can be of any specific assistance to you or your staff in moving HR 1185 through the legislative process, please contact Mr. Adam Brenman of the AAOMS Governmental Affairs Department at 847/678-6200 or abrenman@aaoms.org.

Sincerely,

William J. Nelson, DDS
President