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Dental Surgeon.



Business Fax No, Please Ring business Line First

Wednesday, 11 April 2012

Senate Finance and Public Administration Committees
PO Box 6100 Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600 Australia

Dear Sir,

Regarding Health Insurance (Dental Services) Bill 2012

I write to support the Hon Peter Dutton MP Bill, submitted to parliament on 19-3-12 from the earliest time. I am one of the two hundred and fifty honest self-audit dentist in NSW and hundreds of other dentist in the seven states in Australia who admitted that we did not, manage to give a treatment plan and a written itemised quote to all the Medicare patients and the referring medical doctor before a course of treatment needed by section 10 of the Health Insurance (Dental Services) Determination 2007. When I learned of the requirements, I complied fully. To punish us penitent by asking full re-imburement is most unfair and unjust for a simple administrative error.

In the two years in question (25 of March 2008 to 26 March 2010) we were poorly informed by the Department of Ageing through the MA fee schedule because the strict order is poorly written in small un-emphasised paragraph in a number of different pages.

We did not fully understand the requirement and were under a reasonable misapprehension about the need to comply with the requirement.

In my forty two year old practice, I see a lot of elderly chronic disease sufferer, disabled patients and drug addicted persons. They are most happy of my ability to give pain relief, improve and restore their oral health.

This audit process has caused me to develop insomnia, severe distress, a variety of other general ill health problems and my **marriage (of over forty years) to breakdown**. I am age seventy four and semi retired from practice. I can advise that over the course of forty two years in one practice location only in N.S.W. I never had any complaint made against me.

I beg the authorities concerned not to penalise us hard working honest dentists whom I believe have given tremendous pain relief, care and comfort to the community.

Sincerely Yours

Dr Peter E Chung (Dental Surgeon)