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Dental Surgeons

Senate Finance and Public Administration Committees  
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I am a dentist who has been treating patients under the CDDS scheme since its inception. I believe the scheme to be of great value and it has truly benefited a number of patients who would not otherwise have been able to enjoy good dental health.

All my patients have been treated in good faith and I have taken great pains to keep my record keeping in order. I am greatly disturbed to think that current legislation makes me, a health professional, liable for any minor administrative oversights. I believe that legislation needs to protect dentists who have provided good treatment, but have overlooked some aspects of the paperwork.

I do think it is very important that the efforts of the Committee be directed to seeking out unscrupulous operators who are abusing the system – both medical and dental practitioners. I believe it to be a waste of time and resources to take issue with minor administrative oversights when by far the majority of dentists are treating their CDDS patients well and in good faith. A small handful of practitioners are rorting the system and finding them and dealing with them appropriately is extremely important and a far more appropriate use of resources than chasing administrative oversights.

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