

Massachusetts H. Bill 1094
Dental Care is Health Care.
MA residents deserve it.



**Help bring dental care to
Head and Neck Cancer Survivors
Support H. Bill 1094**

Fact Sheet: Massachusetts House Bill 1094

Bill Overview:

House Bill 1094 is a crucial piece of legislation addressing dental and quality of life issues faced by head and neck cancer survivors in Massachusetts.

This bill will require insurers doing business in the state to cover medically-related dental treatment.

Legislative History:

- 2017-2018 Legislative Session: The bill was first introduced as Bill 3574 and referred to the Committee on Financial Services. It did not progress beyond this stage.
- 2019-2020 Legislative Session: Reintroduced as Bill 1053, the bill was again referred to the Committee on Financial Services without further advancement.
- 2020-2021 Legislative Session: The bill was reintroduced as Bill 1154, referred to the Committee on Financial Services and advanced to the Committee on Health Care Financing.
- 2022-2023 Legislative Session: Reintroduced as House Bill 1094, the bill was once again referred to the Committee on Financial Services.
- Current 2023-2024 Legislative Session: The bill received a favorable vote and was referred to the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing for further study.

Importance of the Bill:

Head and neck cancer patients and survivors often face unique dental challenges and suffer from various oral health issues that significantly impact their daily lives.

Without adequate access to specialized dental care, these cancer survivors continue to suffer from ongoing dental issues, impacting their ability to eat, speak, and fully participate in both personal and professional lives.

Urgent Call for Support:

House Bill 1094 has been introduced four times, reflecting the persistent need to address the dental and quality of life issues faced by cancer survivors in Massachusetts.

Massachusetts Oncology Patients, Survivors, and Supporters (MOPSS) is a volunteer group working to pass House Bill 1094 and ensure equitable coverage for all residents. MOPSS has received letters of support from the Massachusetts Dental Society, the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Mass General Brigham, Massachusetts Society of Clinical Oncologists, Mass Eye and Ear, UMass Memorial Health, Support for People with Oral, Head and Neck Cancer (SPOHNC), Cape Cod Healthcare, Boston Medical Center, Massachusetts Society of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery, Inc. and other organizations. This packet includes the text of House Bill 1094 and our letters of support.

While support for this bill is growing fast, we need even more support: *Yours!*
Your support is crucial to ensure comprehensive dental benefits and quality of life for this vulnerable population.

How You Can Help:

- Voice your support on LinkedIn and Facebook: Connect with Mass Oncology Patients, Survivors, and Supporters (MOPSS) on LinkedIn, join/follow the MOPSS Facebook Page and spread awareness by sharing with your connections/friends. Post your support explaining why House Bill 1094 is vital for these cancer survivors in Massachusetts.
- Contact Your State Representative: Urge them to support and advance the bill.

Contact Information:

We would love to hear from you! If you have questions or need further information, reach out to MOPSS by email at mopssma@gmail.com, by phone at 617-444-9045, or visit us on Facebook or LinkedIn.

Conclusion:

Passing House Bill 1094 is a critical step in empowering head and neck cancer survivors to have access to dental professionals who are knowledgeable about the unique health needs associated with oral cancer. By advocating for the passage of House Bill 1094 and the integration of dental care within overall health care, we strive to create a more equitable society where affected individuals can regain their oral health, restore their oral function, and reclaim their quality of life.

Please help patients and survivors in Massachusetts by supporting House Bill 1094!

Thank you.

Massachusetts Oncology Patients, Survivors, and Supporters (MOPSS)