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3 **Title: Lack of Access to Dental Care**
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5 **Introduced by: Domenic R. Federico, MD, for the Kent County Delegation**
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7 **Original Author: Susan Wakefield, MD**
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9 **Referred to: Reference Committee A**
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11 **House Action:**

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14 **Whereas, lack of good oral health has been shown to cause pre-term**
15 **births, low birth weight, difficulty controlling diabetes, and increased risk of**
16 **heart attack and stroke, and needless pain and suffering, and**
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18 **Whereas, there is an estimated 1 million lost school days and 164 million**
19 **work hours lost annually due to dental disease, and**
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21 **Whereas, there is an increase in the number of patients seen in the**
22 **emergency departments for oral health problems, and**
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24 **Whereas, the cost of providing preventive dental treatment is estimated**
25 **to be 10 times less costly than managing symptoms of dental disease in a**
26 **hospital emergency room, and**
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28 **Whereas, preventative dental care and early detection and treatment**
29 **saves \$4 billion annually in the US, and**
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31 **Whereas, the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recommends the**
32 **establishment of a dental home beginning no later than 12 months of age and**
33 **children who receive preventative dental care early in life have lifetime dental**
34 **costs that are 40% lower than children who do not receive this care, and**
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36 **Whereas, there is a disparity among our patients with Medicaid or no**
37 **health care insurance because they are unable to access affordable dental care;**
38 **therefore be it**
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40 **RESOLVED: That MSMS begin dialogue with the Michigan Dental**
41 **Association, the Michigan Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and the MDCH to**
42 **increase dental access and care for patients with Medicaid and for patients with**
43 **no health care insurance who cannot access affordable dental care.**
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46 **WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE**