



April 10, 2012

To: Senate Public and Municipal Affairs Committee

From: New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition

Re: HB 1416 – 2012

My name is Gail Brown and I am the Policy Director for the New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition.

The New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition is a state-wide diverse collaborative of organizations, agencies and individuals focusing on oral health education, prevention, access, workforce development, and advocacy aimed to promote optimal oral health for the people of New Hampshire. See attached.

The Coalition membership supports the use of community water fluoridation as a safe, cost-effective method of improving oral and overall health through prevention of tooth decay.

While we strongly support parents having the information needed to assist them in decision-making, we feel that information identified in HB 1416 should be delivered by health care providers and then discussed with parents in relation to the health needs of the individual child.

The Coalition *opposes* HB 1416 – 2012 as unnecessary with the potential of interfering or causing confusion with the provider clinical relationship between parent and physician and/or dentist.

Notification on water bills was discussed in the last biennium in HB-312 2011 and was considered inexpedient to legislate at that time. There is no change that would indicate the need for a different outcome this biennium.

For further information: Gail T. Brown, Policy Director, 603-415-5550 or [gbrown@nhoralhealth.org](mailto:gbrown@nhoralhealth.org)