



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1040		DATE: 2/21/2023
COMMITTEE: Health and Mental Health Policy		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/21/2023 11:47 PM

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I am in Support of this Bill and its Intent to Seek Advice from the Public Health Department and Notification to the State Department of Natural Resources.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DIANN BOMKAMP		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: dbomkamp@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/16/2023 3:38 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

612 Fairways Circle

St. Louis, MO 63141

February 16, 2023 The Honorable Mike

Stephens Chairperson Health and Mental Health Committee Re: House Bill 1040 Sponsored by Rep. Doyle Justus Dear Mr. Chairman and Committee Members: I am writing to express my support for making sure that community decision-makers who are considering the addition or removal of water fluoridation be given the opportunity to hear the truth about the benefits of water fluoridation before they make a decision. There are too many groups that make unsubstantiated claims about possible negative effects of water fluoridation that are confusing and downright wrong. So, it is important for another side of the issue to be introduced, especially when the facts are given by persons with a scientific and health background. As a licensed dental hygienist, I can attest to the benefits of water fluoridation through my 53 years in clinical practice in the fluoridated St. Louis area. According to the CDC, "Drinking fluoridated water keeps teeth strong and reduces tooth decay by approximately 25 percent in children and adults." Promoting this practice of allowing health officials to educate the public will hopefully promote the cause for water fluoridation and demonstrate that it is a cost-effective strategy that supports good health, keeps citizens free from pain whether they are rich or poor, is a win-win for all residents of a community. Please support HB 1040 and pass it out of committee. Thank you. Sincerely, Diann Bomkamp
 Diann Bomkamp, RDH, BSDH, CDHC
 dbomkamp@sbcglobal.net 314-484-6121 cell



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: GARY HARBISON		PHONE NUMBER: 573-892-5003
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI COALITION FOR ORAL HEALTH		TITLE:
ADDRESS: PO BOX 1432		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: harbison@oralhealthmissouri.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/16/2023 3:37 PM

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The Missouri Coalition for Oral Health, a private non-profit business, encourages passage of this bill because this bill supports local decision-making by requiring the decision-making body (city council, county commission or local water board) to obtain information from the local authority on community health, the county health department. Often decisions about fluoride are made with no information from the county health department, the one local agency that is charged with protecting local community health. This bill will help ensure that decision-makers have good information available to them when considering community water fluoridation. This bill does not limit local decision-making or dictate the decision made.



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: JACQUE BARDGETT		PHONE NUMBER:
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI DENTAL HYGIENIST ASSOCIATION		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 205 EAST CAPITOL AVE		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY	STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: jacque@bardgett.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/21/2023 6:48 AM

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Below you will find a letter of support from the President of the Missouri Dental Hygienist Association (MDHA). To: House Health and Mental Health Policy Committee@ The Honorable Mike Stephens, Chairman Re: HB 1040 (Sponsored by Rep. Doyle Justus) As President of the Missouri Dental Hygienists' Association representing over 3600 dental hygienists in our state, I want to express our strong support for HB 1040. MDHA has policy stating that "MDHA supports community water fluoridation as a safe and effective method for reducing the incidence of dental caries throughout the human lifespan." Fluoride in our drinking water has been one of the most effective ways to prevent tooth decay in both adults and children. It is good for children and for adults. Just by drinking fluoridated water, tooth decay is decreased by at least 25% over a person's lifetime. We are very fortunate in our state to have 76.8 % of our population on community water systems, that is, over 4.03 million residents, benefitting from community water fluoridation at a very low cost to consumers. This includes approximately 171 Missouri water systems that adjust their fluoride levels to ensure that the water is optimally fluoridated. <http://health.mo.gov/living/families/oralhealth/pdf/fluoridationmap.pdf> In addition, neither a person's age, income level, race, ethnicity, nor his/her ability to receive routine dental care is a barrier to receiving its health benefits. (2019 data-DHSS) Recently several local community leaders in Missouri have put the public's oral health at risk by threatening to remove fluoride from local community water supplies which may, if fact, harm the community's oral and general health. MDHA is in support of having entities that are debating the addition or reduction of fluoride in their drinking water to first have someone from the health department educate the decision-making body with scientific information before any decisions are made. It is important to consider the evidence-based research outlining the long-term benefits of water fluoridation rather than listening to pseudoscientific information that is not based in credibly conducted, valid science. This information is available at <http://health.mo.gov/living/families/oralhealth/waterfluoridation.php> MDHA strongly supports this bill. As elected representatives, you have a great opportunity to help your residents keep their teeth and their bodies healthy. Please pass this bill out of committee. Thank you. Jennifer Kopp, RDH, BHSMDHA President



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LAURA MADDEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: laura@phoenixconsults.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/21/2023 10:12 AM
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Good morning. We trust that our public water systems are safe in providing clean water to our homes and businesses. To achieve this, we use our tax dollars to invest in the infrastructure and technology needed to connect, analyze and treat water that is delivered to us. These investments increase access to services for water providers and users. They ask both ends of the system - providers and users - to do their part to improve our care of the waters and systems. Fluoridation is part of this process. It carries both harms and benefits. Ensuring public water systems and public waters supply districts understand the impacts of fluoridation on public health is important. We appreciate that you have included this in the legislation you are considering today. However, current provisions only address notification when fluoridation starts and stops, and not in cases where changes in fluoridation occur. This information is collected by water companies as part of their ongoing responsibility and is not a burden to share with DNR and DHSS. This responsibility should not be removed. Please restore the notice requirement to share information with DNR and DHSS for modifications to fluoridation levels. Thank you for your ongoing work to protect our health and our environment as you also ensure access to clean water.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: OLIVIA WILSON		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-4876	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI DENTAL ASSOCIATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 213 E. CAPITOL AVE.			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/21/2023 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KEVIN HERTEL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/21/2023 12:00 AM	
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