

Linda Kambeitz

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**From:** Senator Grant Burgoyne  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 21, 2019 10:30 AM  
**To:** SenateCommerceHumanResources  
**Subject:** Senate Bill 1069



## Idaho State Senate

[Legislature.Idaho.Gov](http://Legislature.Idaho.Gov)

Dear Fellow Committee Members,

I have a bill up in the House Business Committee at the same time as our committee will be considering Senate Bill 1069 today. As I cannot be with ~~you~~ I cannot be with you for the consideration of SB 1069, I wanted to share my thoughts on it with you.

I support SB 1069 for a number of reasons, but the primary one is that permitting dental insurers to require that dentists participating in their insurance plans charge their insureds less than the dentists would otherwise charge for noncovered dental services, forces people without dental insurance to subsidize those who have it. This is because dentists forced to charge below market rates to those with insurance must make up the difference somehow, and the only way to do that is to charge those who have no dental insurance more. Although I am sure there are some without dental insurance who are able to pay these somewhat inflated rates, many do not have the good jobs that provide dental insurance, cannot afford to purchase it, and therefore struggle to afford dental care or go without. For these people to be forced into paying inflated dental charges as a subsidy to those with insurance is not only unfair, it is poor public policy because it leads to reduced dental health in the uninsured population. When dental health problems become medical problems a certain percentage of the cases will be Medicaid covered, and others may result in medical indigency claims. Either way the taxpayer will lose. That is why I support SB 1069 .

*Grant*

Senator Grant Burgoyne

*Attachment 1*

*SB 1069*

*2/21/19*