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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Senator Mike Shirkey (Chair, Senate Health Policy Committee)  
Health Policy Committee Members  
**From:** Paul W. Reed, DDS, MS – President, Michigan Association of Orthodontists  
**Date:** March 15, 2016  
**Re:** Michigan Association of Orthodontists Support for SB 741

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The Michigan Association of Orthodontists, which represents over 300 licensed orthodontists in Michigan, strongly supports SB 741 which would remove the Certificate of Need requirement for Dental CT scanners. This CON regulation is unnecessary, costly to the dentists and is an extremely time consuming and complicated process for the dentist to make application. In addition, and perhaps more importantly to orthodontists, the CON Commission does not readily consider orthodontics as a reasonable use of the scan, therefore making the application extremely challenging to get approved.

The specialty of Orthodontics is to treat dental and skeletal irregularities to correctly align teeth and jaws. Utilizing this imaging equipment provides 3-D images to the orthodontists that will greatly enhance their ability to diagnose problems in a way not possible with standard 2-dimensional radiographs. The use of such technology has been very effective for TMJ evaluation and many orthodontists are now using the images to evaluate the airway (helpful with sleep dentistry). The images are also used to plan treatment for impacted teeth, as well as orthognathic surgery.

For these reasons mentioned above, the MAO strongly supports SB 741 and urges the Senate Health Policy Committee to report the bill out of committee and to the Senate floor.

Thank you for your consideration.