SENATE, No. 450

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 8, 1968

By Senators FARLEY, DICKINSON, McDERMOTT, HAGE-DORN, KNOWLTON, SCHIAFFO, WOODCOCK, ITALIANO, RINALDO, LACORTE, WALLWORK, CRABIEL, GUARINI, STOUT and BEADLESTON

Referred to Committee on Banking and Insurance

An Acr to stimulate and encourage improvements in the dental health of the public and providing means for the development and operation of plans to achieve the same.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
- 2 of New Jersey:
- 1 1. The Legislature finds and declares that good dental health is
- 2 directly related to effective nourishment and good general health
- 3 of the public; that the onset and development of dental defects
- 4 can be slow and insidious, and that in the absence of regular pro-
- 5 fessional examination and care, such defects tend to involve seri-
- 6 ous deterioration before detection; and that it is in the interest of
- 7 the public for its general health and welfare that additional means
- 8 be provided as set forth in this act to stimulate and encourage
- 9 such examination and care, as well as to educate the public on
- 10 their importance and to develop sound personal habits for daily
- 11 dental care.
- 1 2. The policy and purpose of this act are to be achieved by pro-
- 2 viding for the establishment and operation of organizations de-
- 3 signed to develop, prepare, offer, execute and operate one or more
- 4 specific or general plans or combinations of plans, including plans
- 5 of an experimental or developmental nature, intended to provide
- 6 care for dental health needs.
- 3. Organizations established and operated for the purposes of
- 2 this act shall, in connection with any plan, perform their functions
- 3 primarily by serving as administrative and fiscal intermediary
- 4 between subscribers, dentists and other participants in a plan, and
- 5 incidentally in any other feasible or effective way.

4. Any organization desiring to apply for authority to operate 1 under this act shall be a nonprofit corporation, organized under Title 15 of the Revised Statutes, without capital stock and not for profit, for one or more charitable or educational purposes among which shall be that of improving the physical well-being of an indefinite number of persons by the development and operation of a voluntary plan or plans under this act, and no part of the assets 7 or net earnings of which shall inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual, and whose certificate of incorporation 10 or by-laws shall contain an irrevocable provision that, in the event of any dissolution of the corporation the net assets remaining shall 12be applied to one or more charitable or educational purposes, as near as may be to those for which the corporation was formed, to 13 be selected by a majority of the trustees of the corporation; and 14 in case of their failure or inability to so select, or in case of any 15 16 disagreement in respect to the validity of such selection, the same shall be made by the Superior Court by application of the doctrine 17 of cy pres and other applicable equitable doctrines, in a summary 18 proceeding initiated by a trustee or trustees, or by any other 20person having a substantial interest in the provisions of this sec-

⁻ 1 5. The activities and operations of an organization authorized under this act shall be conducted by a board of trustees composed $\mathbf{2}$ initially of an even number of persons, not less than 14 in all, as may be specified in the certificate of incorporation, of which ½ shall be persons licensed to practice dentistry in this State and 5 who are holders of active registration certificates in good standing. The initial members of the board shall elect one additional person 7 to serve as chairman of the board, to preside at all meetings of the 9 board, and who shall be a member of the board and participate in its work and functions except that he shall cast no vote on any 10 matter coming before the board except in case of a tie in the votes 11 cast by the other members of the board. 12

tion, or by the Attorney General.

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6. Any and all applications and other papers in connection with authorization of an organization to operate under this act shall be filed with the commissioner who shall make all determinations necessary or proper thereto and who shall issue any authorizations.

7. In reviewing any application for authority to operate under this act, the commissioner shall be guided by the following standards:

a. It shall be shown that the initial working funds are adequate; and in reviewing this aspect, a showing that provision has been made for initial working funds in an amount sufficient to cover the cost of administration and subscription expense for the first 6

months of operation shall be sufficient to support a finding of 8

9 adequacy;

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b. It shall be shown that the organization has enlisted a sufficient 10

number of participating dentists, with skills in appropriate fields 11

and accessible to subscribers, to indicate ability to render the 12

intended dental health service; and at least 100 participating den-13

tists shall be required to have been enlisted in order to support 14

the commissioner's finding in this regard. 15

c. It shall be shown that the organization will accept as a par-16

ticipating dentist any dentist holding a valid and active license, 17

in good standing, to practice dentistry in the jurisdiction where 18

his services are to be rendered, and who is ready, available and 19

willing to render dental health services to be provided under a 20

plan or plans to covered subscribers; but this requirement shall 21

not apply to experimental or developmental plans. 22

8. In addition to the authority to operate under this act as re-

 $\mathbf{2}$ quired by section 6, each plan, other than an experimental or

3 developmental plan, shall be submitted to and approved by the

commissioner before being placed in operation; but information 4

in respect to any experimental or developmental plan shall be in-

cluded in any annual report or as may otherwise be required by

the commissioner by rule or regulation. Application for approval 7

of a plan or plans may be, but need not be, submitted at the same

time as an application for authority. Pending an application for

and approval of a plan or plans, the organization may undertake 10

11 any and all steps, and enter into agreements and contracts in

connection with the same, subject to the receiving of the approval 12

required by this section. Nothing in this act shall preclude any 13

particular kind of plan, whether of a service or indemnity type, 14

with or without provisions for deductible or participation features, 15 or other types and variations, it being intended that there be

17 full flexibility and wide variety in designing and offering a plan

or plans to the end that the same may be accommodated to needs,

18 feasibility, effectiveness, changes of circumstances and any other 19

20 element or factor to be recognized in order that the purpose and

21 objective of this act may be achieved.

9. The authority to operate under this act and the approval of 1

2 any plan or plans shall extend to any part or all of this State, and

shall also include authority and approval to make contracts, agree-

ments or other arrangements with other organizations offering

plans for dental health whether in or out of this State, or with

insurance companies, or with any other organization offering to

- 7 undertake to perform any one or more parts or aspects of opera-
- 8 tion of a plan. This shall include authorization to undertake activi-
- 9 ties to carry out any part of a governmentally-sponsored plan or
- 10 program, whether Federal, State or local.
- 1 10. Every organization authorized or seeking authorization to
- 2 operate under this act shall submit to the commissioner as part of
- 3 its application for approval of a plan or plans under section 8 a
- 4 copy of the form and provisions of the contract between it and
- 5 its subscribers or representative of its subscribers which constitute
- 6 the terms and provisions thereof. The contracts may be either
- 7 individual or group contracts, but in either case shall define the
- 8 nature and extent of the benefits to be provided thereunder in clear
- 9 language and in legible type. Such forms and provisions shall in-
- 10 clude any and all terms reasonably appropriate for a fair descrip-
- 11 tion of the plan and suitable to its proper operation and
- 12 administration. Applications may also be filed for prospective
- 13 changes in the terms of a plan or plans, or for changes in the form
- 14 of contract and other like matters, by way of amendment of plan.
- 15 In reviewing any application for approval of a plan or for amend-
- 16 ment of a plan, the commissioner shall be guided by the norms and
- 17 standards set forth in this act as calculated to achieve its objects
- 18 and purposes.
- 1 11. The amount of the consideration or rate to be paid in con-
- 2 nection with any plan or plans other than an experimental or
- developmental plan shall be a matter for approval by the com-
- 4 missioner as a part of his approval of a plan or an amendment
- 5 of a plan. The initial consideration or rate shall be determined
- 6 as part of the approval of a plan. Changes in consideration or
- 7 rate shall be determined on an application for amendment. In
- 8 all cases, the consideration or rate shall be actuarially sound, and
- 9 in addition the commissioner shall find from the facts presented,
- 10 that the consideration is reasonable, equitable and adequate. In
- 11 weighing these factors, the commissioner shall give controlling
- 12 consideration to adequacy.
- 1 12. In making determinations in respect to consideration or rates
- 2 for a plan or plans, the commissioner shall give proper considera-
- 3 tion to the following components:
- 4 a. Anticipated frequency and level of dental health services
- 5 reasonably to be expected during the term of the contract, giving
- 6 due effect to epidemiological data and other experience in cases
- 7 where the plan has been in operation long enough to give meaning
- 8 to such data;

- 9 b. Estimated accumulation of dental impairments at the outset
- 10 of a plan or plans;
- 11 c. Stabilization factors;
- d. Amortization of start-up costs, where applicable;
- e. Composition of subscribers or groups of subscribers, turnover
- 14 of beneficiaries, and related elements tending to determine the level
- 15 and kind of benefits to be anticipated;
- 16 f. Trends or directions tending to assist in making fair estimates
- 17 of expected experience.
- 1 13. In reviewing any consideration or rate, the determination
- 2 shall include as a component a reserve factor equal to 1 month's
- 3 requirements. For an initial application, this component shall be
- 4 estimated. For subsequent determinations of consideration or
- 5 rate, this component shall be based on the average monthly claims
- 6 accrued in respect to the plan or plans involved during the 6
- 7 months period preceding the first day of the month in which the
- 8 application is filed. In the event that the application for approval
- 9 of the consideration or rate is not finally acted upon within 3
- 10 months after date of filing, the applicant shall submit amended
- 11 schedules of data such that the same will reflect experience or
- 12 estimates as of not more than 2 months prior to the date of final
- 13 determination.
- 1 14. a. Contracts with participating dentists shall contain pro-
- 2 visions for rendering services to patients in accordance with the
- 3 terms of proposed plans. This shall not in any way interfere with
- 4 full freedom of choice on the part of both the patient and the den-
- 5 tist. Forms of such contracts shall be submitted to and approved
- 6 by the commissioner as part of an application for authority to
- 7 operate under this act, or for approval of a plan or amendmeent
- 8 of a plan.
- 9 b. The fees, or schedules of fees, or ranges of fees for particular
- 10 services shall be determined by the organization on the basis of
- 11 the customary, prevailing, usual and reasonable fees, taking into
- 12 account the variations in particular areas and attributable to the
- 13 special knowledge, experience or skill appropriate to the service
- 14 involved.
- 15 c. Determinations based on current statistical data using at least
- 16 90 percentile figure as a base shall be deemed proper.
- 1 15. An authorized organization shall establish feasible means
- 2 and methods for quality control of the services rendered by par-
- 3 ticipating dentists. If no other method is specified as part of a
- 4 plan or otherwise, the plan shall arrange for the establishment of
- 5 a suitable number of committees composed of licensed dentists

6 covering such areas and subject fields as may be appropriate to

7 cover the area of operation and types and levels of care to be

8 provided. Members of such committees shall be named by the par-

9 ticipating dentists for the area or field involved, and are to inquire

10 into and make findings in respect to quality of care, controversies

11 between subscriber and dentist, or between dentist and plan. The

12 organization shall establish procedures, subject to the approval

13 of the commissioner, for the establishment and functioning of such

14 committees.

1 16. Neither subscription to a plan nor participation therein by

any dentist shall affect the professional relationship and/or the

freedom of choice on both sides. The offering and operation of

4 plans under this act shall not constitute the practice of dentistry.

5 Participation by any dentist in an approved plan shall not consti-

6 tute a violation of any law regulating the practice of dentistry.

1 17. In order to achieve the objects and purposes of this act, the

2 commissioner is authorized and empowered to adopt rules and

3 regulations in respect to forms, applications, reports, audits, ex-

4 aminations, procedures and any other administrative steps reason-

ably calculated to be of assistance to the commissioner and of the

6 organizations, subscribers, participating dentists and others who

7 may be affected or interested, to the end that the objects and

s purposes may be aided and encouraged in the most effective and

9 simple fashion possible. In processing any application, the com-

10 missioner shall make a reasonable determination of the actual

11 direct cost to the State, and shall certify the same along with the

12 determination involved, and that amount shall be paid into the

13 Treasury of the State of New Jersey within 15 days after receipt

14 of such certification. In considering any application and to assist

15 in making any determination or finding thereon, the commissioner

16 shall be authorized to have the assistance of any other department,

17 division or bureau of State government having data or information

18 relevant to the matter, and the request, together with the report

19 or recommendation thereon, shall be made part of the commission-

20 er's record on the matter. The authority to deal with matters of

21 procedure shall also include authority to deal with matters of evi-

22 dence and the methods for presentation thereof, to the extent per-

23 mitted by The Evidence Act, 1960.

1 18. As used in this act, the following terms shall be given the

2 following meanings unless the context clearly indicates a different

3 meaning:

4 "Adequate," in respect to the consideration or rate for a plan

or plans means that the revenues will reasonably assure the ability

- 6 of the operation to provide the funds to meet claims and expenses,
- 7 with due allowance where such factors are part of a plan, for
- 8 reserves to meet fluctations or to reduce the need for rate changes
- 9 or adjustments, experience rating, and other appropriate com-
- 10 ponents.
- 11 "Commissioner" means the head of the Department of Banking
- 12 and Insurance.
- 13 "Co-insurance feature" means a provision, as part of any plan,
- 14 that the plan will pay a certain share of the cost of services cov-
- 15 ered by the arrangement.
- 16 "Collateral service arrangement" means an agreement between
- 17 an organization issuing contracts for a plan, and some other entity,
- 18 for the performance by the latter of one or more of the items in-
- 19 cluded in a plan.
- 20 "Deductible feature" means a provision, as part of any plan,
- 21 under which benefits are not provided unless the cost of a stated
- 22 service or during a stated period exceeds a specified amount.
- 23 "Equitable," in respect to the consideration or rate for a plan
- 24 or plans means a fair and proper division of revenues, costs and
- 25 expenses as between different classes of subscribers.
- 26 "Experimental plan" means a plan of any type, the major pur-
- 27 pose of which is to gather data and experience for the design and
- 28 development of an operating plan.
- 29 "Group plan" means a plan under which a master contract is
- 30 entered into between the organization and any appropriate entity,
- 31 such as an employer, an association of persons, or the like, to pro-
- 32 vide benefits to members of the group.
- 33 "Indemnity plan" means a plan to provide payment of some
- 34 part or all of the cost of dental services, whether rendered by a
- 35 participating dentist or not, and which is paid either to the dentist
- 36 or by reimbursement to the patient. It may be part of a service
- 37 plan as when the patient selects a nonparticipating dentist.
- 38 "Individual plan" means a plan under which a contract is en-
- 39 tered into directly between the organization and an individual, for
- 40 providing benefits to the subscriber according to the contract.
- 41 "Participating dentist" means a person licensed to practice den-
- 42 tistry who enters into a contract with the organization offering
- 43 a plan or plans, to render services in accordance with his contract
- 44 to such of his patients as are subscribers.
- 45 "Plan" or "program" means an arrangement entered into vol-
- 46 untarily by an organization to provide one or another kind or type
- 47 of benefit for voluntary subscribers in accordance with the terms
- 48 of the arrangement.

- 49 "Reasonable," in respect to the consideration or rate for a plan
- 50 or plans means the balancing of revenues with costs and expenses,
- 51 giving due allowance for the risk of fluctuations and for provisions
- 52 for reserves, where applicable.
- 'Reimbursement plan' means an indemnity plan.
- 54 "Service plan" means a plan to provide specified dental serv-
- 55 ices to a subscriber and pays some part or all of the cost of the
- 56 services rendered by a participating dentist.
- 57 "Subscriber" is an individual who is entitled to the benefits of
- 58 a group plan or individual plan on a contractual basis. It is synon-
- 59 ymous with "beneficiary."
- 1 19. An organization undertaking a plan or plans or programs
- 2 in accordance with this act shall not be obliged to comply with
- 3 the terms and provisions of any other regulatory law.
- 1 20. No person, association or corporation shall engage in any
- 2 activity provided for in this act unless organized and authorized
- 3 in accordance with its provisions; but this shall not preclude ac-
- 4 tivities authorized under other enabling acts, nor shall it apply to
- 5 any arrangement or activity which is subject to regulation under
- 6 other applicable law of this State or of the United States.
- 1 21. Nothing herein shall be deemed to repeal or supersede any
- 2 other law by implication except as expressly provided herein.
- 1 22. No person licensed to practice dentistry under other law of
- 2 this State, who engages in any activity or enters into any contract
- 3 or arrangement permitted by this act, shall be deemed to be in
- 4 violation of any law, rule or regulation governing the practice of
- 5 dentistry.
- 1 23. Any organization authorized to operate a plan or plans or
- 2 program under this act shall be entitled to all of the exemptions
- 3 provided by law for any other kinds of organization established
- 4 and operated for one or more purposes related to the care of the
- 5 public in health fields, or for plans or programs intended to serve
- 6 the public in any health field.
- 1 24. This act shall be liberally construed to the end that its
- 2 objectives may be achieved with maximum flexibility and variety.
- 1 25. No defect in any part of this act which may be unenforceable
- 2 by reason of conflict with paramount law shall affect any other
- 3 part, and any such defective part shall be deemed to be severable.
- 1 26. This act shall be known and may be referred to by its short
- 2 title as the "Dental Health Plan Law, 1968."
- 1 27. This act shall take effect immediately but shall remain in-
- 2 operative until 120 days after the effective date of rules and regu-
- 3 lations promulgated by the commissioner.

STATEMENT

This bill is intended to provide flexible and effective means for the development and operation of plans to provide dental health services.

Among the areas of public health, the problems of dental health have proven to be among the most difficult. Prior efforts to achieve results have been handicapped by the difficulties of designing a specific, detailed legislative arrangement that would be suitable and effective for all classes of cases.

This act takes a different approach by expressing the basic legislative purpose and object, along with designated norms or standards, and providing for a case-by-case determination of plans, rates and other arrangements by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance in accordance with rules and regulations.

This approach should make it possible to start such plans on moderate scales and building upon the experience achieved.

CHAPTER 305 LAWS OF N. J. 1966 APPROVED 9/26/68 SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

SENATE, No. 450

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ADOPTED JUNE 3, 1968

An Acr to stimulate and encourage improvements in the dental health of the public and providing means for the development and operation of plans to achieve the same.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of
- 2 New Jersey:
- 1 1. The objects and purposes of a dental service corporation
- 2 authorized pursuant to this act shall be to establish, maintain and
- 3 operate a nonprofit dental service plan or plans in the public in-
- 4 terest whereby dental care may be provided to individuals either
- 5 singly or in groups who become subscribers thereto; and in further-
- 6 ance thereof to enter into contracts with duly licensed dentists
- 7 whereby such dentists agree to provide such dental care to its sub-
- 8 scribers; and to do everything necessary, incidental or appropriate
- 9 for the performance and fulfillment of the aforesaid objects and
- 10 purposes or which may lawfully be done by a nonprofit corporation
- 11 organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey.
- 1 2. As used in this act the following words and phrases shall have
- 2 the stated meanings unless a different meaning clearly appears
- 3 from the context:
- 4 (a) the term "dental service corporation" or "the corporation"
- 5 shall mean a corporation which is (1) organized, without capital
- 6 stock, and not for profit, for the purpose of establishing, maintain-
- 7 ing and operating a nonprofit dental service plan, whereby the
- 8 expense of dental services to subscribers and other covered depend-
- 9 ents is paid in whole or in part by the corporation to participating
- 10 dentists and to others as provided herein in return for premiums or
- 11 other valuable considerations, and which (2) holds a certificate of
- 12 authority issued under this act;
- 13 (b) the term "subscriber" shall mean a person to whom a sub-
- 14 scription certificate is issued by the corporation and which sets
- 15 forth the kinds and extent of the dental services for which the
- 16 corporation is liable to make and which constitutes the contract
- 17 between the subscriber and the corporation;

- 18 (c) the term "covered dependent" shall mean the spouse, an 19 adult dependent or a child of the subscriber who is named in the 20 subscription certificate issued to the subscriber and with respect to
- whom appropriate premium is specified in the certificate; 21
- 22 (d) the term "participating dentist" shall mean any dentist
- 23authorized to practice dentistry under the laws of this State and
- 24 who agrees in writing with the corporation to provide the dental
- 25 services specified in the subscription certificates issued by the
- 26corporation and at such rates of compensation as shall be deter-
- 27 mined by its board of trustees and who agrees to abide by the by-
- 28 laws, rules and regulations of the corporation applicable to partici-
- 29 pating dentists;

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- 30 (e) the term "dental service" shall mean any and all general
- and special dental services ordinarily provided by such licensed 31
- 32 dentists in accordance with accepted practices in the community
- 33 at the time the service is rendered;
- (f) the term "commissioner" shall mean the Commissioner of 34
- 35 Banking and Insurance.
- 1 3. No dental service corporation shall be converted into a cor-
- poration organized for pecuniary profit. Every such corporation 2
- 3 shall be operated for the benefit of the subscribers. No dental
- service corporation shall impose any restrictions as to methods of 4
- diagnosis or treatment on dentists who administer to its sub-5
- scribers. The certificate of incorporation or by-laws shall contain 6
- an irrevocable provision that in the event of any dissolution of the
- 8 corporation the net assets remaining shall be applied to one or more
- charitable or educational purposes, as near as may be to those for which the corporation was formed, to be selected by a majority of 10
- the trustees of the corporation with the approval of the commis-11
- sioner; and in case of the failure or inability of the trustees to so 12
- select, or in case of any disagreement in respect to the validity of 13
- such selection, the same shall be made by the Superior Court by 14
- application of the doctrine of cy pres and other applicable equitable 15
- doctrines in a summary proceeding initiated by one or more 16 trustees, or by any other person having a substantial interest in the
- provisions of this section, including, without limitation, the com-18
- missioner or the Attorney General. 19
 - 4. A nonprofit corporation organized under Title 15 of the 1
 - Revised Statutes for the purpose of establishing, maintaining and 2
 - 3 operating a nonprofit dental service plan, as described in section
 - 2 (a) of this act, intending to do so as a dental service corporation 4
 - certified under and thereby subject to the provisions of this act, 5
 - shall seek certification therefor by application to the commissioner.

The application of such a corporation shall include a certified copy 8 of its certificate of incorporation, a copy of its by-laws certified by the lawful custodian of the original, and a statement in such 10 form and detail as the commissioner shall prescribe, showing its financial condition, its proposed methods and places of operation, 11 and such other matters as the commissioner shall prescribe, signed 13 and sworn to by its president and secretary or other proper officers. If the commissioner is satisfied, on the basis of examination or 14 otherwise, that such corporation is organized without capital stock 15 and not for pecuniary profit and has complied with the require-1617 ments of this act and that its condition or methods of operation 18 are not such as would render its operations hazardous to the public 19 of its subscribers, the commissioner shall issue a certificate of 20authority to such corporation as a dental service corporation of this State. A corporation to which a certificate of authority has 2122been issued under this act thenceforth shall be subject in all its activities to the provisions of this act as long as the certificate 23of authority as issued or thereafter amended remains in effect. 24 No change in, or amendment to, or alteration in, addition to, or 2526substitution of any document, instrument or other papers so filed 27 with the commissioner shall become operative or effective until the 28 same shall also have been filed with the commissioner in a similar 29 manner. No certificate of authority shall be issued to any corporation not incorporated as a corporation without capital stock and 30 not for pecuniary profit under the laws of this State, or to any 31 corporation which, prior to or pending its application for such 3233certificate, has solicited a subscriber or issued a subscription certificate. No dental service corporation shall solicit a subscriber 34or issue a subscription certificate until its board of trustees has 35been fully constituted as provided in this act. 36

5. In reviewing any application for authority to operate under this act, the commissioner shall be guided by the following standards:

4 (a) It shall be shown that the initial working funds are adequate.
5 No certificate of authority shall be issued to any applicant therefor
6 except on receipt of evidence by the commissioner that such ap7 plicant is in possession of unencumbered funds of not less than
8 \$25,000.00 and that such amount is held in cash or in bank to its
9 credit. From and after the issuance of a certificate of authority
10 to an applicant, the corporation shall maintain such amount as a
11 general surplus over and above its reserves, liabilities, and special
12 contingent surplus.

- 13 (b) It shall be shown that the applicant has enlisted a sufficient
- 14 number of participating dentists, with skills in appropriate fields
- 15 and accessible to subscribers, to indicate ability to render the
- 16 intended dental service. In carrying out the intent of this section
- 17 the commissioner shall determine that at least 100 dentists have
- 18 agreed to participate.
- 19 (c) It shall be shown that the applicant will accept as a par-
- 20 ticipating dentist any dentist authorized to practice dentistry in
- 21 the jurisdiction where his services are to be rendered, and who is
- 22 ready, available and willing to render dental service to be provided
- 23 under a contract or contracts.
- 1 6. The activities and operations of a dental service corporation
- 2 shall be conducted by a board of trustees composed initially of an
- 3 even number of persons, not less than 14 in all, as may be specified
- 4 in the certificate of incorporation, ½ of whom shall be persons
- 5 who are licensed to practice dentistry in this State and who are
- 6 holders of active registration certificates in good standing. The
- 7 initial members of the board shall elect one additional person to
- 8 serve as chairman of the board to preside at all meetings of the
- 9 board, and who shall be a member of the board and participate in
- 10 its work and functions, except that he shall cast no vote on any
- 11 matter coming before the board except in case of a tie in the votes
- 12 cast by the other members of the board. The offering and opera-
- 13 tion of contracts and agreements under the authority of this act
- 14 shall not constitute the practice of dentistry.
- 7. Every contract made by any dental service corporation to
- 2 provide payment for dental service shall provide for the payment
- 3 for dental service for a period of 12 months, and no contract shall
- 4 be made providing for the inception of such services at a date
- 5 later than one year after the actual date of the making of such
- 6 contract. Any such contract may provide that it shall be auto-
- 7 matically renewed from year to year unless there shall have been
- 8 90 days prior written notice of termination by either the subscriber
- 9 or the corporation. No contract between the corporation and a
- subscriber shall provide for payment for dental services for more than one person except that a few in
- than one person, except that a family contract may provide that
 payment will be made for device.
- 12 payment will be made for dental services rendered to a subscriber
- 13 and covered dependents.
- 8. Every contract entered into by the corporation with any sub-
- 2 scriber shall be in writing and a certificate stating the terms and
- 3 conditions thereof shall be furnished to the subscriber. No such
- 4 subscription certificate shall be issued or delivered by any dental
- 5 service corporation unless it contains the following provisions:

- 6 (a) A statement of the amounts payable to the corporation by
- 7 the subscriber and the times at which and the manner in which such
- 8 amounts shall be paid; and a provision requiring 90 days' written
- 9 notice to the subscriber before any change in the contract, including
- 10 a change in the amount of subscription rate, shall take effect;
- 11 (b) a statement of the nature of the dental services to be paid
- 12 for and the period during which the certificate is effective; and if
- 13 there are any types of dental services to be excepted, or for which
- 14 benefits are limited, a detailed statement of such exceptions and
- 15 limitations printed as hereinafter specified;
- 16 (c) a statement of the terms or conditions, if any, upon which the
- 17 certificate may be canceled or otherwise terminated at the option
- 18 of either party;
- 19 (d) a statement that the subscription certificate constitutes the
- 20 contract between the corporation and the subscriber and includes
- 21 the endorsements thereon and attached papers, if any, and contains
- 22 the entire contract;
- 23 (e) a statement that no statement by the subscriber in his applica-
- 24 tion for a certificate shall void the contract or be used in any legal
- 25 proceeding thereunder, unless such application or an exact copy
- 26 thereof is included in or attached to the certificate, and that no
- 27 agent or representative of the corporation, other than an officer or
- 28 officers designated in the certificate, is authorized to change the
- 29 contract or waive any of its provisions;
- 30 (f) a statement that if the subscriber defaults in making any
- 31 payment under the certificate, the subsequent acceptance of a pay-
- 32 ment by the corporation or by one of its duly authorized agents
- 33 shall reinstate the contract, but such reinstatement shall not pro-
- 34 vide coverage for the period during which the subscriber was in
- 35 default in making such payment;
- 36 (g) a statement of the period of grace which will be allowed the
- 37 subscriber for making any payment due under the contract, which
- 38 period shall not be less than 10 days;
- 39 (h) a statement that indemnity in the form of cash will not be
- 40 paid to any subscriber except in payment for dental services for
- 41 which the corporation was liable at the time of such payment.
 - 1 9. Any dental service corporation may classify subscribers
 - 2 whereby under specified circumstances a subscriber or covered
- 5 services and the subscription certificate issued to any subscriber
- 3 dependents may pay a participating dentist for dental services an
- 4 amount in addition to that payable by the corporation for dental
- 6 affected thereby shall contain the provisions thereof and shall
- 7 specify such circumstances. No subscriber or covered dependent

- 8 shall be liable for that portion of a participating dentist's fee for
- 9 dental service specified in the subscriber's certificate, which is to be
- 10 paid by the corporation to the participating dentist.
- 1 10. Any subscription certificate may contain a provision that all
- 2 dental services paid for by a dental service corporation shall be in
- 3 accordance with the accepted dental practices in the community at
- 4 the time, but the corporation shall not be liable for injuries result-
- 5 ing from negligence, misfeasance, malfeasance, nonfeasance or
- 6 malpractice on the part of any officer or employee or on the part of
- 7 any dentist or others engaged by him in the course of rendering
- 8 dental services to subscribers.
- 1 11. In every subscription certificate issued or delivered by any
- 2 dental service corporation of this State:
- 3 (a) All printed portions shall be plainly printed in type of which
- 4 the face is not smaller than 10 point;
- 5 (b) there shall be a brief description of the subscription certifi
 - cate on its first page and on its filing back, in type of which the
- 7 face is not smaller than 14 point;
- 8 (c) the exceptions and limitations of the contract shall appear
- 9 with the same prominence in the certificate as the benefits to which
- 10 they apply; and
- 11 (d) if the contract contains any provisions purporting to make
- 12 any portion of the articles, constitution or by-laws or regulations
- 13 of the corporation or plans a part of the contract, such portion
- 14 shall be set forth in full.
 - 1 12. Any dental service corporation may enter into agreements
 - 2 with eligible dentists whereby such dentists become participating
- 3 dentists in a plan operated by the corporation and may make to such
- 4 dentists such payments as shall have accured by reason of services
- 5 required to be performed under the plan. No person shall become
- 6 a participating dentist unless he shall be a dentist authorized to
- 7 practice dentistry under the laws of this State. Any dental service
- 8 corporation may enter into contracts for the payment of dental
- 9 services to the subscribers or members of similar nonprofit dental
- 10 service corporations of this or any other State, subject to the super-
- 11 vision of the State in which such similar corporation is located, and
- 12 shall have the right to make payment to any other nonprofit dental
- 13 service corporation, or to any dentists authorized to practice
- 14 dentistry in this or any other State for services rendered to its
- 15 subscribers and their covered dependents at rates not exceeding the
- 16 rates paid participating dentists under the certificate of the sub-
- 17 scriber. The making of any such contract or arrangement, or the
- 18 rendering of dental service pursuant thereto, shall not be a violation

19 of any law, rule or regulation governing the practice of dentistry.

13. No subscription certificate shall be issued by any dental 1 2 service corporation to any subscriber unless and until the form thereof shall have been filed with the commissioner, together with 3 4 all applications, riders and endorsements for use in connection with the issuance or renewal thereof. If the commissioner shall at any 5 6 time notify the corporation filing the same of his disapproval of any such form, as contrary to law, or as being oppressive or calculated 7 to mislead the public, specifying particulars, it shall be unlawful for such corporation thereafter to issue any such form so disapproved. 9 Such disapproval of the commissioner shall be subject to review 10 11 by the Superior Court in a proceeding in lieu of prerogative writ. 1 14. No dental service corporation shall enter into any contract

with a subscriber unless and until it shall have filed with the commissioner a full schedule of the rates to be paid by the subscribers to such contracts. The commissioner may disapprove such schedule of rates at any time if he finds that such rates are excessive, inadequate or discriminatory. It shall be unlawful for any dental service corporation whose schedule of rates has been disapproved to effect any contract or issue any subscription certificate until a revised schedule of rates has been filed. Such disapproval by the commissioner shall be subject to review by the Superior Court in a proceeding in lieu of prerogative writ.

15. No dental service corporation shall enter into any contract 1 2 with a subscriber unless and until it shall have filed with the commissioner a copy of the agreement proposed to be entered into by the corporation and the participating dentists. Every such agree-4 ment shall provide for the payment of dental services to sub-5 6 scribers and covered dependents to the end of the subscription 7 centificate year; that 30 days' written notice of termination of such agreement may be given to the corporation at any time by any participating dentist but shall not apply to any subscription certificate in force at the time of such notice until the first date there-**1**0 after when such subscription certificate may properly be terminated by the corporation, and that the agreement of the dentist to render 12such service to the end of any certificate year shall not be affected 13 by cessation of the transaction of business by reason of appropriate 14 resolution of the board of trustees, or directors of such corporation, 15 injunction issued by a court of competent authority, legislative 16 17 act or by any other exercise of judicial, administrative or legisla-18 tive authority; provided, that this requirement shall not apply to any subscription certificate which is not maintained in force by 20 the payment of premiums required thereby. There shall be included in the minutes of the board of trustees of every dental service 21 22corporation a record of the approval of payments to be made to 23participating dentists. The corporation shall maintain in its office complete records of all the dental services rendered to subscribers 24 25 and covered dependents in such form as will indicate the kind of 26 services rendered, the amounts claimed for such services by the 27 participating dentists, and the amounts paid by the corporation. No payment to any participating dentists shall be authorized by 28 **2**9 the board of trustees except in accordance with a plan of payments 30 adopted by the board, recorded in the minutes of a meeting, and 31 filed with the commissioner. If the commissioner at any time 32shall notify the corporation of his disapproval of any rate of 33 payment included in the plan of payments as being excessive or 34 inadequate in itself or in relation to other rates of payment, 35 payment shall not thereafter be made at the rate. In making his 36 determination the commissioner shall give consideration to prevail-37 ing rates of payment by hospital, medical and dental service corporations of this and other States for similar services under similar 38 39 conditions, the fair relationships of the values of the different kinds of services covered in the plan of payments and any other 40 relevant facts. At the time of filing a plan and thereafter upon 41 42request of the commissioner, the corporation shall furnish to the commissioner such information as the commissioner shall specify 43 to facilitate review of the plan of payments. 44

- 1 16. A dental service corporation may also issue to a policyholder 2 a group contract, covering at least 10 employees or members at 3 the date of issue, if it conforms to the following description:
- 4 (a) A contract issued to an employer or to the trustees of a fund 5 established by one or more employers, or issued to a labor union, 6 or issued to an association formed for purposes other than obtain7 ing such contract, or issued to the trustees of a fund established by 8 one or more labor unions or by one or more employers and one or 9 more labor unions, covering employees and members of associations or labor unions.
- 11 (b) A contract issued to cover any other group which the com-12 missioner determines may be covered in accordance with sound 13 underwriting principles.
- Benefits may be provided for one or more members of the families or one or more dependents of persons who may be covered under a group contract referred to in (a) or (b) above.
- 17 The contract may provide that the terms "employees" shall 18 include as employees of a single employer the employees of one

- 19 or more subsidiary corporations and the employees, individual
- 20 proprietors and partners of affiliated corporations, proprietorships
- 21 and partnerships if the business of the employer and such corpora-
- 22 tions, proprietorships or partnerships is under common control
- 23 through stock ownership, contract or otherwise. The contract may
- 24 provide that the term "employees" shall include the individual
- 25 proprietor or partners of an individual proprietorship or a partner-
- 26 ship. The contract may provide that the term "employees" shall
- 27 include retired employees. A contract issued to trustees may
- 28 provide that the term "employees" shall include the trustees or
- 29 their employees, or both, if their duties are principally connected
- 30 with such trusteeship. A contract issued to the trustees of a fund
- 31 established by the members of an association of employers may
- 32 provide that the term "employees" shall include the employees of
- 33 the association.
- 1 17. The provisions of this act shall apply to group contracts
- 2 except that sections 7, 8, 11 and 14 of this act shall not apply. The
- 3 word "subscriber" as used in this act means the policyholder under
- 4 a group contract where the context so requires.
- 1 18. Every group contract entered into by a dental service cor-
- 2 poration with any policyholder shall be in writing and a contract
- 3 form stating the terms and conditions thereof shall be furnished
- 4 to the policyholder to be kept by him. No group contract form
- 5 shall be used unless it contains the following provisions:
- 6 (a) A statement of the contract rate payable to the dental service
- 7 corporation by or on behalf of the policyholder for the original
- 8 period of coverage, the time or times at which, the manner in which,
- 9 the contract rate due is to be paid, and the basis, if any, on which
- 10 the rate may subsequently be adjusted;
- 11 (b) A provision that all contract rates due under the contract
- 12 shall be paid by the policyholder, or by the designated representa-
- 13 tive of the policyholder, to the dental service corporation on or
- 14 before the due date thereof or within such period of grace as may
- 15 be specified therein;
- 16 (c) A statement of the nature of the dental services to be paid
- 17 for and the period during which such payments will be made, and
- 18 if there are any services to be excepted, a detailed statement of such
- 19 exceptions;
- 20 (d) A provision that the contract, any endorsements or riders
- 21 thereto, the application of the policyholder in whose name the con-
- 22 tract is issued, a copy of which shall be attached to the contract,
- 23 and the individual applications, if any, of the employees or members
- 24 shall constitute the entire contract between the parties and that all

- 25 statements contained in any such application for coverage shall
- 26 be deemed representations and not warranties;
- 27 (e) A provision that there shall be issued to the policyholder,
- 28 for delivery to the employee or member, a certificate or other
- document which sets forth or summarizes the essential features of 29
- the coverage including the time, place and method for making 30
- 31 claims for benefits;
- 32 (f) A provision that all new employees or new members, as the
- 33 case may be, in the groups or classes eligible for the coverage must
- 34 be added to the eligible groups or classes;
- (g) A statement of the terms and conditions, if any, upon which 35
- 36 the contract may be terminated or amended. Any notice to the
- 37policyholder shall be effective if sent by mail to the policyholder's
- address as shown at the time on the corporation's records. The 38
- notice to the policyholder as herein required shall be sent at least 39
- 40 30 days before the termination or amendment of the contract takes
- 41 effect.
- 42 Any such group contract may contain a provision that all dental
- 43services paid for by a dental service corporation shall be in accord-
- ance with the accepted dental practices in the community at the 44
- time, but the corporation shall not be liable for injuries resulting 45
- from negligence, misfeasance, malfeasance, nonfeasance or mal-46
- 47 practice on the part of any officer or employee or on the part of
- any dentist or others engaged by him in the course of rendering 48
- dental services to persons covered. 49
- Any dental service corporation may classify persons covered 50
- 51 whereby under specified circumstances a covered person may pay
- a participating dentist for dental services an amount in addition 52
- to that payable by the corporation for dental services and the group 53
- 54
- contract shall contain the provisions thereof and specify such
- circumstances. 55
- 19. Group contracts, covering at least 100 employees or members, 1
- may provide for the adjustment of the contract rate, based on both $\mathbf{2}$
- past and contemplated experience thereunder, at the end of the 3
- first year or any subsequent year of coverage thereunder but no 4
- increase in the contract rate shall be retroactive. No dental service 5
- corporation shall use any form of experience rating plan until it 6
- shall have filed with the commissioner a full schedule of the rates 7
- and formulas to be used and the classes of groups to which they 8
- are to apply. The commissioner may disapprove the rates, formulas 9 or classes at any time if he finds that the rates produced thereby 10
- are excessive, inadequate or unfairly discriminatory or that the 11

- 12rates, formulas or classes are such as to prejudice the interests of
- persons who are eligible for dental services under contracts with
- the dental service corporation which are not subject to experience
- 15 rating.
- 16 No experience rating formula shall be approved by the commis-
- sioner unless it provides that the groups subject to experience 17
- rating will be assessed a reasonable community charge and unless 18
- it incorporates a provision that, in no event, shall the rates charged 19
- an experience rated group be more than 25% in excess of or more 20
- than 25% below the average projected rates to be charged all 21
- experience rated groups, having comparable coverage, as of the 22
- end of the calendar quarter next following the ending date of the 23
- 24 experience period for the group in question.
- 25 Any experience rating formula may provide for the allowance
- 26 of an equitable discount in the event the policyholder agrees to
- 27 perform certain administrative functions and record keeping in
- 28connection with routine maintenance of the group account.
- 1 20. A dental service corporation of this State may enter into
- agreements to participate with other corporations in the issuance 2
- of group contracts to policyholders whose employees or members
- are located in more than one State. Without regard to the size
- limitation and the percentage limitations specified in the first and
- second paragraphs, respectively, of section 19 of this act, the agree-
- ments may provide for experience rating, for a sharing of the
- premium, claims, and expenses by the participating corporations
- or for acceptance or ceding of the whole or portions of group risks
- 10 on a reinsurance basis. No such agreements shall, however, prejudice the interests of persons who are eligible for dental serv-
- ices under other contracts with the dental service corporation. 12
- Such agreements shall be filed with and approved by the commis-
- 14 sioner before becoming effective.

11

- 21. No dental service corporation shall issue group contracts 1
- which are not experience rated pursuant to sections 19 or 20 of
- this act, until it shall have filed with the commissioner a full 3
- schedule of the rates which are to apply to such contracts. The 4
- commissioner may disapprove such schedule at any time if he
- finds that such rates are excessive, inadequate or unfairly dis-
- criminatory. It shall be unlawful for any corporation to effect any 7
- such group contract according to such rates thereafter. 8
- 22. All practices, rules and procedures of a dental service cor-
- poration, involving termination or refusal to renew coverage,
- modification of coverage or rates in the case of persons classified

as left-group, selection of risks, and underwriting classifications,

5 shall be subject to review at any time by the commissioner and

upon his request for information relative to any such practice, 6

rule or procedure the dental service corporation shall furnish such 7

information in writing without delay. If in the opinion of the com-8

missioner any such practice, rule or procedure, is unjust, unfair, 9

10 or inequitable, taking into consideration the nonprofit and tax-

exempt status of the dental service corporation, he shall so notify 11

the dental service corporation and fix a time and place for hearing 12

before him or his designated representative at which the dental 13

service corporation may be heard. 14

15 Following such hearing, the commissioner may make an order

based on the record of the proceeding. If such order be one of 16

17 disapproval, it shall be unlawful for the corporation to continue

18 such practice, rule, or procedure. Such disapproval by the com-

missioner shall be subject to review by the Superior Court in a 19

proceeding in lieu of prerogative writ. 20

23. Every corporation to which this act shall be applicable shall

pay the following fees to the commissioner for enforcement of the 2

3 provisions of this act, viz.: for filing its application and charter,

\$10.00; for filing each annual statement, \$20.00; for each copy of 4

any paper filed in the Department of Banking and Insurance, \$0.20 5

a sheet or folio of 100 words and \$1.00 for certifying the same. 6

In addition, such corporation shall pay on April 1 of each year a 7

general supervisory fee to the commissioner in the amount of \$0.02 8

per subscriber at the end of the preceding year under subscription 9

contracts other than group contracts, plus \$0.02 per member or 10

employee covered under group contracts at the end of the preceding 11

12 year.

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24. If the commissioner shall determine that the amount dis-1

bursed during any 12-month period by a dental service corporation

as expenses of operation is excessive in proportion to the amount 3

it received from subscribers during that period, the corporation 4 shall reduce its expenses during the 12-month period next following 5

notification of the commissioner's determination to the proportion

directed by the commissioner. In making his determination the

7 commissioner shall give consideration to the number of subscribers 8

enrolled, the aggregate payments by subscribers, the length of

9 time the corporation has been certified as a dental service corpo-10

ration, the expense rates of hospital, medical and dental service 11

corporations of this and other States under similar conditions and 12

any other relevant facts. In no event shall a dental service corpora-13

tion disburse an amount during any 12-month period for expenses 14

- 15 of operation greater than 30% of the amount it receives from
- 16 subscribers during that period.
- 1 25. The funds of any dental service corporation may be in-
- 2 vested only in accordance with the requirements now or hereafter
- 3 provided by law for the investment of funds of life insurance
- 4 companies. Every dental service corporation after the first full
- 5 calendar year of doing business after the effective date of this
- 6 act, shall accumulate and maintain a special contingent surplus
- 7 over and above its reserves and liabilities at the rate of 2% annually
- 8 of its net contract and certificate income until such surplus shall
- 9 be not less than \$100,000.00, except that no such corporation shall
- 10 be required to maintain a special contingent surplus exceeding
- 11 55% of its average annual contract and certificate income for the
- 12 previous 5 years.
- 1 26. Every dental service corporation transacting business in
- 2 this State shall file annually, on or before March 1, in the Depart-
- 3 ment of Banking and Insurance, a statement in such form and
- 4 detail as the commissioner shall prescribe, subscribed and sworn to
- 5 by its president and secretary, or in their absence by 2 of its
- 6 principal officers, showing its financial condition at the close of
- 7 business on December 31 of the year last preceding, its business
- 8 transacted during that year, and such other matters as the com-
- 9 missioner shall prescribe. The commissioner may also address
- 10 inquiries to any such corporation or its officers in relation to its
- 11 condition or affairs, or any matter connected with its transactions.
- 12 and it shall be the duty of the officers of such corporation to reply
- 13 promptly in writing to all such inquiries; for good cause shown the
- 14 commissioner may extend the time within which any such state-
- 15 ment may be filed.
- 1 27. Any dental service corporation neglecting to make and file
- 2 its annual statement as required by section 26 of this act, or
- 3 neglecting to reply in writing to inquiries of the commissioner
- 4 within such reasonable time as may be specified by him, shall
- 5 forfeit \$25.00 for each day's neglect, to be recovered in a civil
- 6 action; and upon notice by the commissioner to such effect, its
- 7 authority to do new business in this State shall cease while such
- 8 default continues.
- 1 28. (a) The commissioner shall have the power, whenever he
- 2 deems the same expedient, to make or cause to be made an exam-
- 3 ination of the assets and liabilities, method of conducting business
- 4 and all other affairs of every dental service corporation authorized
- 5 or which has made application for authority to transact business

6 under the provisions of this act. For the purpose of such exam-

7 ination the commissioner may commission and employ such persons

8 to conduct the same or to assist therein as he may deem advisable,

9 which examination may be conducted in any State in which the cor-

10 poration examined has an office, agent or place of business.

11 (b) The reasonable expense of such examination shall be fixed

12 and determined by the commissioner and he shall collect the same

13 from the corporation examined, which shall pay same on presen-

14 tation of a detailed account of such expense. In case any corpora-

15 tion, after such examination, shall be adjudged by the Superior

16 Court to be insolvent, the expense of such examination, if unpaid,

17-19 shall be ordered paid out of the assets of the corporation. No

20 dental service corporation shall, either directly or indirectly, pay,

21 by way of gift, credit or otherwise, any other or further sum to the

22 commissioner or to any person in the employ of the Department

23 of Banking and Insurance, for extra service or for purposes of

24 legislation, or for any other purpose whatsoever.

25 (c) It shall be the duty of the officers, agent and employees of

26 any such corporation to exhibit all its books, records and accounts

27 for the purpose of such examination and otherwise to facilitate the

28 same so far as it may be in their power to do so, and for that

29 purpose the commissioner and his deputies, assistants and em-

30 ployees shall have the power to examine, under oath, the officers,

31 agents and employees of any such corporation relative to its busi-

32 ness and affairs.

1 29. Whenever any dental service corporation shall become

2 insolvent or shall suspend its ordinary business for want of funds

3 to carry on the same, or whenever the commissioner shall ascertain,

4 as a result of examination as authorized by this act, or in any

5 other manner, that any such dental service corporation is exceeding

6 its powers or violating the law or that its condition or methods

7 of business are such as to render the continuance of its operations

8 hazardous to the public or its members, that its assets are less

9 than its liabilities or that the number of subscribers to its service

10 has decreased to less than 100 persons, or that it has failed to

11 maintain the number of participating dentists specified by this

12 act, the commissioner may institute an action in the Superior Court

13 to enjoin it from the transaction of any further business, or from

14 the transfer or disposal of its property in any manner whatsoever.

15 The court may proceed in the action in a summary manner or other-

16 wise. It may grant injunctive relief and appoint a receiver, with

17 power to sue for, collect, receive and take into his possession all

the goods and chattels, rights and credits, moneys and effects, 18 lands and tenement, books, papers, choses in action, bills, notes 19 and property of every description belonging to such dental service 20 corporation and sell and convey and assign the same, and hold 21 22and dispose of the proceeds thereof under the directions of the 23 Superior Court. The court may cause the receiver to continue the 24existing operations of the corporation, under court supervision, 25 until the next anniversary of the subscription certificates then in force. Any such dental service corporation may be deemed in-26 27 solvent whenever it is presently or prospectively unable to fulfill 28 its outstanding contracts and to maintain the reserves required pursuant to this act. 29

1 30. Any dental service corporation which shall have violated any of the provisions of, or shall have neglected, failed or refused to 23 comply with, any of the requirements of this act, except the failure to file an annual statement and the failure to reply in writing to inquiries of the commissioner, shall be liable to a penalty of \$500.00, 5 6 to be sued for and collected by the commissioner in a civil action 7 in the name of the State. The penalties when recovered shall be paid by the commissioner into the State Treasury for the use of the 8 State. Any officer, agent, employee or member of any such cor-9 10 poration or any other person who shall issue, circulate or cause or permit to be circulated, any estimate, illustration, circular of any 11 sort misrepresenting the terms of any contract issued by such cor-12 poration or misrepresent the benefits or advantages promised 13 14 thereby, or use any name or title of any contract or class of contracts misrepresenting the true nature thereof shall be guilty of a 15 16 misdemeanor.

1 31. A dental service corporation may receive and accept from any governmental agencies, Federal, State or local, any grant 2 or allocation of funds for the purpose of providing payment for 3 dental services to eligible persons under such terms or conditions 4 5 as shall be specified by such agency. Any dental service corporation may in its discretion accept the grant of funds from private 6 7 agencies, corporations, associations, groups of individuals or in-8 dividuals for the purpose of providing dental services to needy persons under such conditions as shall be satisfactory to such 9 10 persons or organizations and to the corporation. All funds received under such grants shall be segregated in a separate fund or funds 11 to be used for the purposes agreed upon. Neither the income from 12subscribers to the corporation, nor the assets accumulated from 13 income received from subscribers shall be available for the payment 14 of any obligations assumed by the corporation under such grants,

- 16 nor shall any funds received through such grants be available
- 17 for the payment of the obligations assumed by the corporation
- 18 under its subscription certificates. The authority of the commis-
- 19 sioner under the provisions of this act shall not extend to funds
- 20 received under such grants except to such extent as is necessary to
- 21 satisfy him that the requirements of this act have been complied
- 22 with.
- 1 32. Every dental service corporation is hereby declared to
- 2 be a charitable and benevolent institution, and its funds and prop-
- 3 erty shall be exempt from taxation by the State or any political
- 4 subdivision thereof.
- 1 33. Should any provision or section of this act be held invalid
- 2 for any reason, such holding shall not be construed as affecting
- 3 the validity of any remaining portion of such section or of this
- act, it being intent of the Legislature that this act shall stand
- 5 notwithstanding the invalidity of any such provision or section.
- 1 34. No person, association or corporation shall engage in any
- 2 activity provided for in this act unless organized and authorized
- in accordance with its provisions; but this shall not preclude
- 4 activities authorized under other enabling acts, nor shall it apply
- 5 to any arrangement or activity which is subject to regulation
- 6 under other applicable law of this State or of the United States.
- 1 35. This act shall be liberally construed to the end that its objec-
- 2 tives may be achieved with maximum flexibility and variety.
- 1 36. This act shall be known and may be referred to by its short
- 2 title as the "Dental Service Corporation Act of 1968."
- 1 37. This act shall take effect immediately.