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California State Assembly
Assemblyman V. Manuel Perez
Eightieth Assembly District

February 18, 2011

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I am privileged to issue this letter of support on behalf of HomeCare Dentists. With a sincere desire to make a difference, HomeCare Dentists was founded in 1993, by Kevin Warthan, DDS as a part-time mobile dental practice to bring quality dental care to the residences of mentally and physically challenged people. When he, as well as the community, saw the significant health benefits and results of his outreach, his passion grew to a full time vocation of community-based service.

As a member of the State of California State Assembly and long term healthcare advocate, I continue to be cognizant of the health and social issues facing our constituents, and the compassionate care our mentally and physically compromised population is deserving of. In conjunction with my long standing membership on the Committee on Aging and Long Term Care, whose Committee's primary jurisdiction includes Area Agencies on Aging, California Department of Aging, Long-term care services and the Older Americans Act.

From an outreach perspective, HomeCare Dentists introduced Free Exam Days at assisted senior living facilities and has inspired countless health care professionals, both medical and non-medical to make a difference. Concurrently, it was the oral health of older Americans, as depicted in the Surgeon General's report on Oral Health, which outlined the disparities in our nation's population, and confirmed to both Dr. Warthan and his team, that there is a definitive need for Homecare Dentists services.

The healthcare community acknowledges that dental infection ranks as the most universal affliction of humankind, and, in the United States, it ranks third in medical cost behind only heart disease and cancer. By providing on-site dentistry to individuals who could not otherwise access dental care, HomeCare Dentists provides a service that not only reduces the incidence of dental disease, but also reduces the systemic effect of poor oral health in these individuals. In this regard, as HomeCare Dentists has and continues to provide quality and compassionate mobile dental care for the past 18 years to the mentally and physically compromised residents of the state of California, I wholeheartedly endorse the benefits of their exceptional service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "V. Manuel Pérez".

V. MANUEL PÉREZ, Assemblymember,
80th District California State Assembly
VMP: gc

