**Dental Examinations for Students**

Senate Bill 280 was signed into law in December 2023. Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, a parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis who applied to have a child registered for the first time in kindergarten or first grade in a school in Michigan must comply with the following:

* Have a dentist or dental hygienist conduct a dental oral assessment on the child not earlier than six months before the date of the child’s registration with the school and obtain from the dentist or dental hygienist a written statement certifying that the child has received the dental oral assessment.
* If the parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis of the child does not meet the requirements described above, the individual must ensure that the government entity or person selected by the DHHS conducts a dental oral assessment on the child.

Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, a parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis who applies to have a child registered for the first time in kindergarten or first grade in a school in Michigan must present to school officials, at the time of registration but not later than the first day of school, one of the following: 1) a statement of religious exemption to the bill’s requirement; 2) the statement from a dental professional described above; or 3) a written statement indicating that the parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis will provide for the child’s dental oral assessment by the DHHS’s program. A child cannot be excluded from school attendance if the parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis of the child does not present a statement described above to school officials on or before the first day of school.