

SB 228: Maryland State Dental Association Misleading Legislators and the Public

MSDA MYTH	FACT
SB 228 is needed so patients in Maryland won't be forced into Walmart-like dental care	Tens of thousands of patients in Maryland currently receive dental care from DSO-supported dentists and have been for more than two decades.
Without SB 228, DSO-supported dentists will put small, local dentists out of business	MSDA is asking the legislature to favor one group of licensed dentists over another group of licensed dentists. MSDA is putting its own interests ahead of patients by trying to limit consumer choice.
SB 228 is necessary because DSOs are driven by the bottom line, not patient care	DSOs don't treat patients. Only a licensed dentist can treat patients. DSOs provide dentists with services that help lower the costs of supplies, equipment, and even office space. As a result, DSO-supported dentists can provide quality care to their patients at an affordable cost.
Without SB 228, private equity interests will interfere with clinical decision.	Under current law, only a licensed dentist can make clinical decisions and treat patients. DSOs are not seeking any change to current law and support increased penalties for anyone that interferes with clinical decisions.
DSOs are corporate dentistry	Under current Maryland law, only a licensed dentist can own a dental practice. DSOs do not practice dentistry nor do they own any dental practices.
DSOs are seeking legislation which would allow corporate ownership and mean major changes to dental practices	DSOs have been supporting dentists in Maryland for more than 20 years and are simply seeking to maintain current law. MSDA is seeking to protect their interests on the backs of patients by preventing dentists from contracting with DSOs, which will reduce access to care and increase costs for patients.

www.theadso.org