

## Rebecca Buck

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**From:** Catherine Rader <catherine.rader@myfairpoint.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 11:57 AM  
**To:** Rebecca Buck  
**Subject:** S.94

Dear Ms. Buck:

I have sent the following message to each of the members of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Please enter it into the record.

Catherine Rader  
LWVVT

I am writing in support of S.94, to expand Medicaid dental benefits.

The League of Women Voters of Vermont's position on health care <https://my.lwv.org/vermont/position/health-care> calls for the inclusion of dental care, and the League supported the licensure of dental therapists in the expectation of greater accessibility and lower cost.

The importance of dental care cannot be overstated. Oral health is connected to physical and social well-being and the ability to gain and retain a job. More specifically, the Bi-State Primary Care Association cites the importance of dental care for patients with diabetes, cardiovascular disease, HIV/AIDS, eating disorders and some mental health conditions.

A higher benefit cap and more generous reimbursement would increase the number of dentists accepting new adult patients, and increase the number of adults seeking needed dental care.

For the better health of financially disadvantaged Vermonters, please support this bill and move it forward.

Catherine  
Rader,  
Member of the Board, LWV of Vermont