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Board Matter

Recognizing February as National Children's Dental Health Month

Members of the Board,

Each February, the American Dental Association (ADA) sponsors National Children's Dental Health Month to raise awareness about the importance of oral hygiene, regular dental visits, and access to preventative care. Good oral health is essential to a child's overall well-being and impacts their ability to eat, speak, and learn. Dental decay is one of the most chronic childhood diseases, yet it is largely preventable with proper care and early intervention.

Access to dental care is not always easy for families. Many children from underserved communities lack access to routine dental visits and preventative care. Fairfax County is committed to ensuring that children and families have the resources and education to maintain healthy smiles. Our local health department, school-based programs, and community and nonprofit organizations work tirelessly to provide dental screenings, fluoride treatments, and outreach efforts to support underserved communities. Developing good habits at an early age and scheduling regular dental visits helps children get a good start on a lifetime of healthy teeth and gums.

Therefore, I move that the Board recognize February as Children's Dental Health Month in Fairfax County and encourage all residents to promote good oral health habits among our youngest community members. Additionally, I request that the Office of Public Affairs prepare a proclamation to be presented outside the Board room.