

Fwd: December Legislative Update

From: **California Dental Hygienists** | memberservices@cdha.org To: **CDHSA Members**

Friday, Dec 21, 2018, 11:02 AM



California Dental Hygienists' Association
The Voice of Dental Hygiene



National News

New Law: Action for Dental Health Act

President Trump signed into law the Action for Dental Health Act, a bipartisan bill aimed at improving oral health and access to oral health care.

H.R. 2422, introduced by Reps. Robin Kelly (D-IL) and Mike Simpson (R-ID) passed the House in February; in October, it passed the Senate, where it was sponsored by Sens. Cory Booker (D-NJ) Bill Cassidy (R-LA) Mazie Hirono (D-HI), and Tim Scott (R-SC).

The Action for Dental Health Act amends the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize oral health promotion and disease prevention programs through FY2022. Significantly, it expands eligibility of the types of organizations able to apply for Health and Human Services (HHS) grants to improve oral health through education and dental disease prevention. The grants will also be used to develop and expand outreach programs, establish dental homes for children and adults, including the elderly, blind and disabled and facilitate the provision of dental care to nursing home residents.

[Click Here to read more](#)

Labor Law Seminar
Saturday, February 2, 2019

Walnut Creek, CA
2.5 CEUs

Learn What's New for 2019 and Understanding the Employer's Responsibility to their Employees



Schedule:

8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.:

Registration, Marketplace and Continental Breakfast

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.:

Labor Law Seminar

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.:

Opening Remarks and Product Review Session with Crest Oral-B

11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.:

Closing Remarks, Raffle, Networking and Marketplace

Location:

Walnut Creek Library
Oak View Room

1644 N Broadway
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Labor Law Registration:

Members: \$45 **Non-Members:** \$75



*Register by January 1, 2019 and receive a
BONUS Home Study Coupon for 2 CEUs!*

The Dental Hygiene Committee of California becomes the
Dental Hygiene Board of California on January 1, 2019

It's celebration time...

Effective January 1, 2019, the Dental Hygiene Committee of California (DHCC) becomes the Dental Hygiene Board of California (DHBC).



A hundred years of advocacy and growth have led us to this milestone for the profession of dental hygiene. California hygienists have now achieved all the hallmarks that define a true profession: self regulation and the control and approval of the profession's educational programs.

CDHA has worked closely with the CA legislature and Aaron Read and Associates to bring yet another unique change to the oversight of the RDH profession in CA.

Dental Board Meeting, Nov 29-30, 2018

The Dental Board of California, at their November meeting, did not advance the proposal to allow RDAEF2s to administer local anesthesia and nitrous oxide sedation. Strong opposition continues to be voiced by many including CDHA. The DBC will review this proposal further along with the Office of

Professional Education Services (OPES).

New on the agenda, the DBC discussed possible statutory changes to allow RDAEFs to use any materials or device for procedures within their scope of practice. This change was opposed by CDHA, the American Academy of General Dentistry, as well as the majority of the Board. The matter was referred to staff for further research and CDHA will be on alert should the proposal resurface.

CDHA Legislation to Amend the Dental Practice Act in 2019

CDHA plans to sponsor legislation in 2019 to amend the Dental Practic Act to increase access to the services of dental hygienists and improve the public's health. Specifically, CDHA seeks to lessen supervision restrictions, expand practice settings for both RDH and RDHAPs, as well as remove other impediments to care in Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas as well as in public settings. A CDHA letter to the Dental Hygiene Committee of California outlining our proposals was included in the DHCC's November meeting. The DHCC expressed support and provided CDHA with input prioritizing which amendments would be of greatest benefit to the public. Stay tuned for more information!

[Click here to read the CDHA letter to DHCC](#)

Legislative Day - March 26, 2019

YOUR LEGISLATORS - YOUR VOICE

Legislators like to know who their constituents are (You). At past CDHA legislative days, we have been told our presence in the Sacramento Capitol makes a difference!

We have wonderful plans for a dental hygiene bill in 2019. Join us on March 26 at the Capitol! The more "faces" legislators can put to dental hygiene, the more likely they are to listen and hear what we have to say!

Can't join us in Sacramento? Strengthen your relationship with your legislators at home. Say hello at casual greet and meets or coffee chats, or send a letter to their office. Tell them your name, that you're a registered dental hygienist in their district, that you're interested in improving access to oral healthcare for Californians.

For your legislator's local address or to find out when and where their next meet and greet will be, go to "findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov", input your zip code and follow the links.

CDHA Legislative Day

Join us on March 26, CDHA 2019 Legislative Day and help advocate on behalf of your profession and yourself! Our focus will be on the CDHA bill we will be sponsoring.

When:

Tuesday, March 26th, 2019

Where:

California State Capitol
1315 10th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Who Should Attend?

Any member interested in learning more about the legislative process, who would like to help promote oral health, and advance the profession of dental hygiene and their career opportunities, this is the event for you! You will be meeting your legislators alongside fellow California RDHs and RDHAPs.

Goals:

- *Learn about the legislative process
- *Advocate effectively for dental hygienists
- *Communicate the priority legislative issues facing dental hygienists
- *Collaborate with colleagues to create legislative solutions

First time at a Legislative Day? No worries - CDHA takes care of all logistics ...



The program will begin at 9:00 am with an orientation. No need to worry about what to say! You will be provided with a unified message, talking points and an agenda. A mentoring session with speakers will take place in the morning and your appointments with legislators will be scheduled for you in the afternoon. You won't be alone and will be meeting your legislators alongside fellow colleagues. This important day will conclude with a reception at Aaron Read & Associates (CDHA Legislative Advocates) across the street from the Capitol.

RSVP:

Registration to Legislative Day is FREE to CDHA Members! To RSVP, email the following to alison@cdha.org:

- 1) Name
- 2) Phone
- 3) Home zip code

The deadline to RSVP is Friday, March 1st, 2019 by 5:00 p.m.

RDHAP Legislative Update - Good News!

UPDATE ON 9920 Denti-Cal Code...

As previously reported, a new Denti-Cal Code provides additional reimbursement when serving patients with special needs! It has come to our attention that, when submitting claims for reimbursement, you will need to include the patient's Medical Condition code in the comment section to validate the extra time needed.

Breaking news: More Dental Professionals in Humboldt County to Accept Denti-Cal

Per a press release from the Dept. of Health and Human Services (DHHS), a Local Dental Pilot Project Grant will provide scholarships to six local Registered Dental Hygienists in Humboldt County so they can become RDHAPs.

Per the DHHS, this scholarship project will improve access to oral health care. CDHA President-Elect Darla Dale is quoted as saying:

"Certainly RDHAPs can clean teeth, but they can do so much more to keep smiles healthy."

[Click Here to read the full article](#)

Liberty Dental Accepts RDHAP Providers



Liberty Dental Plan now accepts RDHAPs as providers in its network, and have an AP page on their website!

<https://www.libertydentalplan.com/Providers/Join-Our-Network.aspx>

Jessica Salazar-Olivares, Liberty Network Manager Provider Relations, is available for any RDHAP with questions or to help complete the necessary paperwork. Jessica can be contacted directly via E-mail at jsalazar@libertydentalplan.com or reached via phone at 888-273-2997 x 273 (office), 949-232-2505 (mobile), 5:00 am- 5:00 pm. PST, Monday through Friday.

[Liberty CA Contracting and Credentialing Packet](#)

[Liberty Site Application](#)

[Liberty Medicare Advantage Addendum](#)

LAO Report Supports Expanding AP Scope

California's Legislative Analysts's Office (LAO) released a report "Improving Access to Dental Services for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities. This report analyzes the challenges and considers options and recommendations including expanding the scope for RDHAPs.

[Click Here for the full LAO Report](#)

CalHyPAC:

Keeping Our Political Voice Strong

CalHyPAC is the California Dental Hygienists' Association's Political Action Committee, a separate entity from the CDHA. The PAC establishes relationships with California legislators who believe that dental hygienists are an important and essential part of the health care system. We support candidates for the California Legislature who believe in our interests, concerns and goals.

CalHyPAC is an essential part of CDHA's government affairs program and is the only political action committee that represents California dental hygienists.

[Click here to learn more about CalHyPAC and donate today!](#)

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STAY CONNECTED:



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