

**Meeting Minutes of the  
American Dental Association  
Council on Government Affairs  
July 2, 2019 Council Call**

This meeting of the Council on Government Affairs was conducted via conference call and was called to order by Dr. Craig Armstrong, CGA chair, at 5:58 PM EST, Tuesday, July 2.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members:** (District 1) Dr. Mark Desrosiers, 2020; (District 2) Dr. Lauro Medrano-Saldana, 2019; (District 3) Dr. John Reitz, 2021; (District 4) Dr. Mark Vitale, 2022; (District 5) Dr. Deborah Bishop, 2020; (District 6) Dr. Leon Stainslav, 2022; (District 7) Dr. Matthew Messina, 2021; (District 8) Dr. Phillip Fijal, 2020; (District 9) Dr. Lisa Knowles, 2020; (District 10) Dr. Emily Willett, 2021; (District 11) Dr. John Hisel, 2022; (District 12) Dr. Matthew Cohlma, 2022; (District 13) Dr. Ariane Terlet, 2019; (District 14) Dr. David White, 2021; (District 15) Dr. Craig Armstrong, Chair 2019; (District 17) Dr. Zack Kalarickal, 2020; Dr. Robin Nguyen, New Dentist Member

**Liaisons:** Dr. Daniel Klemmedson, Board of Trustees (District 14); Dr. Lauren Yap, American Student Dental Association; Ms. Janette Sonnenberg, Alliance of the American Dental Association

**Not in attendance:** (District 16) Dr. Daniel Cheek, 2019; Dr. Richard Herman, Chair, Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention; Mr. Michael Graham, Senior Vice President, Government Affairs; Dr. Tommy Harrison, Chair, American Dental Political Action Committee

**Council staff:** Ms. Roxanne Yaghoubi, Interim Director; Mr. Robert Burns, Manager; Ms. Emily Wright, Senior Project Assistant

**Other ADA staff present for phone call:** Mr. Chris Tampio, Director, Congressional Affairs; Ms. Megan Mortimer, Lobbyist, Congressional Affairs; Mr. Mike Kendall, Senior Associate General Counsel, Legal Affairs

**POLICY REVIEW WORK GROUP**

The Council considered resolutions presented by the workgroup of Drs. Desrosiers, Reitz, and Vitale, who were empaneled by Dr. Armstrong to recommend retaining, amending, or rescinding 82 Association policies based on their continued need, relevance, and consistency with other Association policies. Dr. Armstrong noted that the Council had already approved the four education-related policies at its meeting of February 7-9, 2019, pending any changes by the Council on Dental Education and Licensure (CDEL). CDEL approved those resolutions on consent at its meeting of June 27-28, 2019.

The workgroup briefly explained the policies and the workgroup's rationale for proposing to retain, amend, rescind, or defer action on each of them. Concern was expressed about the limited time given to review the policies prior to the meeting. Dr. Armstrong explained the difficulties posed by the House of Delegates deadlines and offered to defer consideration of any and all policies that might cause concern, with the understanding that any subsequent recommendations to retain, amend, or rescind those policies would have to be deferred to the 2020 House of Delegates.

Following discussion by the Council, Dr. Armstrong suggested that if the Council was comfortable with the workgroup's recommendation to retain as written 12 policies, amend 9 policies, and rescind 19 policies, the Council could vote en bloc to adopt those recommendations, with action on 40 policies deferred until 2020. A motion to approve the workgroup's recommendations was made, seconded, and adopted unanimously.

- **Resolved**, that CGA approve the policy review workgroup's recommendations on the attached resolutions.

#### VET CARE ACT

The Council discussed the minutes from the Council's June 4 call, during which the Council voted without objection to support the VET CARE Act. A motion was made to approve the minutes from the previous council call, which was seconded and adopted unanimously.

- **Resolved**, that CGA approve the minutes from its June 4, 2019 conference call.

A motion was made to have CGA work with the Council on Scientific Affairs (CSA) to review the study design in the VET CARE Act. This motion was withdrawn.

#### DISCUSSION

The Council discussed whether to move forward with the request to have ADA President Cole send a letter to Congress in support of the VET Care Act.

#### MOTION

A motion was made to delay the request for an ADA Presidential letter of support for the VET CARE Act until the CGA meeting in August, before which CSA will review the legislation and send comments to CSA. This motion was seconded and adopted with one vote in opposition.

- **Resolved**, that CGA delay the request for an ADA Presidential letter of support for the VET CARE Act until the CGA meeting in August, before which CSA will review the legislation and send comments to CGA.

Meeting adjourned on Tuesday July 2, 2019 at 7:08 PM EST.