

Council on Government Affairs Unofficial Report of Major Actions August 1-3, 2019

The Council on Government Affairs met August 1-3, 2019 in the Washington, D.C. office. The following is a summary of major actions taken by the Council.

1. The Council heard from dentist members of Congress, including Rep. Mike Simpson (R-ID), Rep. Paul Gosar (R-AZ), and Rep. Brian Babin (R-TX).
2. The Council received an update on the State Public Affairs (SPA) Oversight work group, including state action on workforce and dental therapists, as well as the results of the Fight Insurer Interference Strategic Taskforce (FIIST) pilot programs.
3. The Council elected the 2019-2020 Chair and Vice Chair. Dr. Phillip Fijal was elected Chair and Dr. David White was elected Vice-Chair.
4. The Council had a discussion with ADA Executive Director Dr. Kathleen O'Loughlin, on the Members First 2020 Strategic Plan and the Common Ground 2025 Strategic Plan, including updates on membership and budget.
5. The Council heard a presentation from Dr. Marko Vujicic from the ADA Health Policy Institute on economic and demographic changes, including dental service organizations (DSOs) and consumer-directed care, that are affecting dentistry.
6. The Council received an update from Ms. April Kates-Ellison on changes to membership dues.
7. The Council voted on policy resolutions. The Council voted to retain five policies, amend fifteen, rescind six, and further review four policies.
8. The Council discussed Congressional legislation on surprise billing.
9. The Council heard from Ms. Sarah Milligan and Mr. Peter Aiello from ADPAC about lobby day 2019 and possible dates for lobby day 2020.
10. The Council received an update from Ms. Roxanne Yaghoubi on the advocacy efforts on Medicare medically necessary oral health care. The Council voted to remove the ADA from the coalition on Medicare medically necessary oral health care led by Mr. Eric Berger.
11. The Council voted to have the lobby day work group consider a proposal to have a breakout session on state PACs.
12. The Council discussed in-office dental benefit plans and agreed to collaborate with the Council on Dental Practice and other ADA Councils on this issue.
13. The Council voted to establish a work group to study the Indian Health Service/Public Health Service in collaboration with the appropriate ADA Councils and come back to

CGA with recommendations. The work group will be able to use outside consultants as needed and will have funding for a face to face meeting.

14. The Council voted to form a work group on teledentistry to report back during the next Council meeting on state and national efforts to define and implement teledentistry.
15. Members of the Council discussed an interest in having the Council look into the medically necessary and Medicare policies. No vote was taken.

CGA Council Members:

Dr. Craig Armstrong, Chair, TX
Dr. Phillip Fijal, Vice-Chair, IL
Dr. Deborah Bishop, AL
Dr. Daniel Cheek, NC
Dr. Matthew Cohlma, OK
Dr. Mark Desrosiers, CT
Dr. John Hisel, ID
Dr. Zacharias Kalarickal, FL
Dr. Lisa Knowles, MI
Dr. Lauro Medrano-Saldano, NY
Dr. Matthew Messina, OH
Dr. Robin Nguyen, FL, New Dentist Committee
Dr. John Reitz, PA
Dr. Leon Stanislav, TN
Dr. Ariane Terlet, CA
Dr. Mark Vitale, NJ
Dr. David White, NV
Dr. Emily Willett, NE

Liaisons:

Dr. Daniel Klemmedson, Trustee Liaison, Fourteenth Trustee District, AZ
Dr. Thomas Harrison, chair, American Dental Political Action Committee, TX
Dr. Richard Herman, chair, Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention, NY
Ms. Janette Sonnenberg, Alliance of the American Dental Association Liaison, UT
Dr. Lauren Yap, American Student Dental Association Liaison, HI

The Council will meet January 23-25, 2020 in Washington, DC.