

**Council on Government Affairs
Unofficial Report of Major Actions
January 23-25, 2020**

The Council on Government Affairs (CGA) met in the Washington, D.C. office on January 23-25, 2020. The following is a summary of major actions taken by the Council:

1. The Council adopted a motion to approve its 2021 meeting dates, January 28-30 and August 19-21.
2. The Council received an update from Mr. Chad Olson, director, State Government Affairs, and Mr. Jeffrey Troupe, senior legislative liaison, State Government Affairs, on the State Public Affairs (SPA) Oversight workgroup, including Fight Insurance Interference Strategic Task Force (FIIST)-related grants.
3. The Council heard from Dr. Kathleen O'Loughlin, executive director, on the Common Ground 2025 Strategic Plan and its alignment to the 2020 Operating Plan.
4. The Council voted on the recommendations of the policy review workgroups. The Council adopted motions to retain 1 policy, reassign 1 policy, rescind 7 policies, and amend 26 policies. Fifteen of those policies will be sent to another council for secondary review. In addition, nineteen policies were voted on by the Council during its August 2019 meeting and were on the consent calendar for this meeting.
5. The Council received an update from Dr. David Preble, senior vice president, Practice Institute, on in-office dental plans. The Council asked staff to research state legislation and regulations on this issue, including whether patients can have dental insurance and also belong to an in-office dental plan.
6. The Council adopted a motion to support legislation proposed by Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) on non-covered services.
7. The Council heard from Tufts dental students Mr. Brent Mullen and Mr. Keith Nguyen on their program for veterans, Service With A Smile. The Council discussed organizations like Dental Lifeline Network that provide free and discounted dental care to veterans, as well as Congressional legislation on a VA dental benefit and the recent ADA trip to the Orlando VA facility.
8. The Council received an update on vaping, including the interim board policy and the response to Resolution 84H-2019.
9. The Council received an update from the Teledentistry workgroup. The Council adopted a motion to approve the workgroup's response to the Council on Dental Practice (CDP) on the 2015 resolution on Teledentistry.
10. The Council received updates from the following representatives of the Federal Dental Services: Colonel Christensen Hsu, DoD Health Affairs; Colonel Stephen Tanner, USA; Rear Admiral Gayle Shaffer, USN; Colonel Ender Ozgul, USAF; Dr. Patricia Arola, VA; and Rear Admiral Timothy Ricks, USPHS.

11. The Council discussed a motion to change the position of vice chair to chair elect. The Council adopted a motion to table the discussion until February 1.
12. The Council discussed providing orientation materials and information to new Council members.
13. The Council members gave legislative and regulatory issues a priority ranking from 1-4 (1 high priority, 2 priority, 3 of interest, 4 no interest).

CGA Members:

Dr. Phillip Fijal, chair, IL
Dr. David White, vice chair, NV
Dr. Deborah Bishop, AL
Dr. John Blake, CA
Dr. Matthew Cohlma, OK
Dr. Mark Crabtree, VA
Dr. Mark Desrosiers, CT
Dr. John Hisel, ID
Dr. Zacharias Kalarickal, FL
Dr. Lisa Knowles, MI
Dr. Matthew Messina, OH
Dr. Raymond Miller, NY
Dr. John Reitz, PA
Dr. Matthew Roberts, TX
Dr. Adam Shisler, TX
Dr. Leon Stanislav, TN
Dr. Mark Vitale, NJ
Dr. Emily Willett, NE

Liaisons:

Ms. Kate McPherson, American Student Dental Association, NC
Dr. George Shepley, Trustee-Liaison, Fourth Trustee District, MD
Ms. Janette Sonnenberg, Alliance of the American Dental Association, UT
Dr. Richard Stevenson, chair, Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention, FL
Dr. David Watson, chair, American Dental Political Action Committee, SC

The Council will meet August 13-15, 2020 in Washington, D.C.