

July 10, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-230 U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
S-221 U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Leaders McConnell and Schumer:

The American Dental Association (ADA) and its 163,000 members would like to thank Congress for its efforts to combat the challenging effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (P.L. 116-136) has provided important support to small business dental practices. Many small businesses in the dental community continue to face challenges that require action and assistance. As Congress looks to its next legislative package to help the country deal with this continuing crisis, we respectfully request you consider assisting dental practices and their patients by:

- Providing tax credits to small businesses for the purchase of additional personal protective equipment (PPE) and safety improvements to the office.
- Increasing the federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) using an economic indicator, while also keeping in place maintenance of effort (MOE) protections if used to support state Medicaid programs with adult and child dental services.
- Providing temporary and targeted liability protection to small businesses that follow applicable public health guidelines during the pandemic.
- Providing additional flexibility for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans by allowing borrowers to:
 - Take advantage of the Employee Retention Tax Credit.
 - Use PPP funds to purchase PPE.
 - Take out additional PPP funds.
 - Apply for PPP loans if they are 501(c)(6) organizations.
 - Deduct expenses paid for with PPP loans.
- Incentivizing health care practitioners to work in health-disadvantaged communities that have been further undermined by COVID-19 by providing tax credits, federal grants, additional student loan repayment, and other incentives.

Many thanks for your work on these important issues. If you have any questions, please have your staff contact Chris Tampio at 571-213-7756 or tampioc@ada.org. Additional information is also available at [ADA.org/covid19advocacy](https://www.ada.org/covid19advocacy).

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Sincerely,

Chad P. Gehani, D.D.S.
President

Kathleen T. O'Loughlin, D.M.D., M.P.H.
Executive Director

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