

National Legislative Update 2009
from our District III Trustee
Jill Grassmick, RDH

Attention WV dental hygienists! Jill Grassmick, our newly elected District III Trustee, received a letter from the Government Affairs on the health reform bill(*see below). “Please take time to read the letter, make phone calls, and pass it on to other hygienists. Also, take time to call members of the House Energy and Commerce Committee for support in keeping the dental hygiene provisions. It is critical that they hear our voices! The issue is not whether you agree or disagree with the health reform bill. The issue is an amendment to remove the dental hygiene provisions contained in section 2215 of HR3200. Start at the top of the list(Chair); then, (Chair Emeritus); and then your state and so on.”

Stay involved by joining the Advocacy list-serve:
advocacy@lists.adha.net
If you have additional questions, you may reach Jill at:
jgrassmick@aaahawk.com. You may contact the ADHA Governmental Affairs Division at: 1.312.440.8925.

House Committees Considering Health Reform Legislation Today!

Please Call House Energy and Commerce Committee Members to Support Dental Hygiene Provisions!

Dear Jill,

As you have likely heard in recent news reports, Congress is currently engaged in health reform efforts. Both the House and Senate now have legislation drafted that is in the process of being considered in committees. **Both bills have significant provisions that impact dental hygienists and the patients they serve.**

ADHA and its members have been active in supporting the inclusion of oral health benefits in any proposal that is being considered by Congress. As a result, language to support dental hygiene students, professionals and education programs, particularly those focused on public health, has been included in both the House and Senate bills.

Just yesterday, the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee passed its health reform bill, the Affordable Health Choices Act, which included the dental hygiene provisions.

Today, the House Energy and Commerce Committee is considering HR 3200, the House health reform bill. We understand that an amendment seeking to remove the dental hygiene provisions contained in Section 2215 of HR 3200 may be introduced today. **If the amendment passes, it would effectively remove the eligibility of dental hygiene students, professionals and education programs for the opportunities outlined in Section 2215.**

It is critical that House Energy and Commerce members hear from Americans who support the inclusion of dental hygiene in Section 2215.

Please take a few minutes to place quick calls to members of the House Energy and Commerce Committee (list of members and phone numbers below). There are many members of the Committee—taking the time to make some calls, even if you cannot call all members, is helpful. Less than a half-hour of your time can make a huge difference for your profession!

When you call, please note the following:

- **You are a licensed dental hygienist calling to express your support of dental hygiene language included in Section 2215 of HR 3200, America's Affordable Health Choices Act of 2009.**
- **You urge Congressman/woman ___ to reject any amendment introduced that seeks to strip the dental hygiene language from Section 2215.**

Thank you in advance for your support on this important issue. We appreciate you taking the time to make the calls.

As a point of clarification, ADHA has not endorsed or proposed any specific health reform proposal—the association seeks to have dental hygiene/oral health provisions included in any proposal that comes before Congress to ensure that oral health has parity with medical provisions.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call ADHA's Governmental Affairs Division at 312-440-8925 or reply to this e-mail.

Thanks,

Your ADHA Governmental Affairs Team:

Megan Fitzpatrick, Director
Stacey Chappell, Manager
Kathy Schroder, Manager
Kennyetta Dillon, Assistant
Connie Johnson, Assistant

111th Congress—House Energy and Commerce Committee Members
All Phone Numbers Have 202 Area Code
Henry A. Waxman, CA, Chair - 225-3976
John D. Dingell, MI, Chair Emeritus - 225-4071
Edward J. Markey, MA - 225-2836
Rick Boucher, VA - 225-3861
Frank Pallone, Jr., NJ - 225-4671
Bart Gordon, TN - 225-4231
Bobby L. Rush, IL - 225-4372
Anna G. Eshoo, CA - 225-8104
Bart Stupak, MI - 225-4735
Eliot L. Engel, NY - 225-2464
Gene Green, TX - 225-1688
Diana DeGette, CO - 225-4431
Lois Capps, CA - 225-3601
Mike Doyle, PA - 225-2135
Jane Harman, CA - 225-8220
Jan Schakowsky, IL - 225-2111
Charles A. Gonzalez, TX - 225-3236
Jay Inslee, WA - 225-6311
Tammy Baldwin, WI - 225-2906
Mike Ross, AR - 225-3772
Anthony D. Weiner, NY - 225-6616
Jim Matheson, UT - 225-3011
G.K. Butterfield, NC - 225-3101
Charlie Melancon, LA - 225-4031
John Barrow, GA - 225-2823
Baron P. Hill, IN - 225-5315
Doris O. Matsui, CA - 225-7163
Kathy Castor, FL - 225-3376
John P. Sarbanes, MD - 225-4016
Christopher S. Murphy, CT - 225-4476
Zachary T. Space, OH - 225-6265

Jerry McNerney, CA - 225-1947
Betty Sutton, OH - 225-3401
Bruce L. Braley, IA - 225-2911
Joe Barton, TX, Ranking Member - 225-2002
Ralph M. Hall, TX - 225-6673
Fred Upton, MI - 225-3761
Cliff Stearns, FL - 225-5744
Nathan Deal, GA - 225-5211
Ed Whitfield, KY - 225-3115
John Shimkus, IL - 225-5271
John B. Shadegg, AZ - 225-3361
Roy Blunt, MO - 225-6536
Steve Buyer, IN - 225-5037
George Radanovich, CA - 225-4540
Joseph R. Pitts, PA - 225-2411
Mary Bono Mack, CA - 225-5330
Greg Walden, OR - 225-6730
Lee Terry, NE - 225-4155
Mike Rogers, MI - 225-4872
Sue Wilkins Myrick, NC - 225-1976
John Sullivan, OK - 225-2211
Tim Murphy, PA - 225-2301
Michael C. Burgess, TX - 225-7772
Marsha Blackburn, TN - 225-2811
Phil Gingrey, GA - 225-2931
Steve Scalise, LA - 225-3015

If you would rather not receive future email messages from American Dental Hygienists Association, let us know by clicking [here](#).
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