

Report of Government Relations AR – 2017

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3 On March 23, 2017, the 11th Annual Legislative Breakfast was held at the State Capitol.
4 Many Senators and Representatives came to meet and greet our members and share the
5 aloha with some good food. Most of the HDA leadership and HDA Legislative program
6 members were present to help President Dr. Chris Lee host the room to discuss upcoming
7 legislative issues.

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9 The 2017 Hawaii State Legislature completed its session in May 2017. During these
10 sessions, HDA was successful on defeating bills that could have negatively impacted the
11 health and safety of Hawaii patients, for example increasing reciprocity without adequate
12 assurance of recent hands-on training.

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14 Bills introduced in 2017 but not passed, will be back in 2018 such as Adult Medicaid and
15 Water Fluoridation. Legislators will again consider dentistry-related bills in January
16 2018, the second year of the legislative biennium.

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18 Great effort was made to defeat bills by more than 100 dentists submitting testimony at
19 the state legislature. This was an outpouring of support for HDA’s legislative effort,
20 chaired by Dr. Norman Chun and the HDA Legislative Committee.

21 The Hawaii Dental Association supported three bills, all of which were signed into law
22 by Governor Ige before the July 11 deadline. These bills can be read in full at
23 www.capitol.hawaii.gov/:

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25 HB374 (now Act084): requires the state auditor’s office to study whether Hawaii dental
26 assistants should be regulated, such as requiring certification. HDA leaders supported this
27 bill as an alternative to simply banning dental assistants from applying fluoride and to
28 potentially advance the caliber of dental assistants in the state. HDA leaders have met
29 preliminarily with the State Auditor Les Kondo and the lead investigator who are
30 reviewing the existing rules regarding dental assistants and determining whether
31 regulation is necessary to advance the public’s health and safety.

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33 HB561 (now ACT106): requires dentists who administers general anesthesia, deep
34 sedation, or moderate (conscious) sedation to post contact information to verify licensure
35 and authorization to administer anesthesia or perform sedation. This bill specifies
36 requirements, including inspections, for written authorization or permit to administer
37 anesthesia or sedation.

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39 HB563 (now Act083) allows dental hygienists to work under “general” (rather than
40 “direct”) supervision of a dentist in certain situations. This bill will allow dental
41 hygienists to perform non-irreversible procedures on a dentist’s patient of record pursuant
42 to a treatment, provided that the hygienist may not perform intra-oral block anesthesia
43 unless under direct supervision. HDA supported this bill because it will allow, but not
44 require, dentists the greater flexibility in managing the patients under their care and
45 continue to help ensure public safety.

46 The HDA was represented at the Board of Dental Examiner meetings by Drs. Robert A.
47 Baysa and Chris Lee, Ms. Kim Nguyen, HDA Executive Director, Ms. Melissa Pavlicek,
48 HDA Legislative Consultant and Ms. Kathleen Lee, HDA Senior Policy Advisor.
49 The President-Elect wishes to thank all volunteer members and HDA staff who worked
50 together to ensure the public's health and safety on behalf of organized dentistry.

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52 Respectfully submitted,

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56 Robert Baysa, DDS

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58 **Recommendation of the HOD Reference Task Force on the Report of the**
59 **Government Relations AR:**

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61 The HOD Reference Task Force recommends that the report be accepted.

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63 **Action taken by the House:**

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65 **Resolution #2018-3**

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67 **Background:** In 2018 the Government AR will continue to exercise sound fiscal
68 management and requires appropriate funding to perform its program and task force
69 responsibilities and recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

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71 **Resolved,** that the House of Delegates budget the same of \$0 (income) and \$50,400
72 (expense) for the conduct of the Government Relations activities for 2018.

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74 The HOD Reference Task Force recommends that the resolution be adopted.

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76 **Action taken by the House:**