

1 Report of the Dental Benefits Providers Task Force 2019

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3 **Strategic Plan Goal #3 – Advocacy:** Effectively ensure that the profession of dentistry is
4 protected and maintained at the highest regard, among key decision makers and the people of
5 Hawaii, through strong public policy and advocacy efforts.
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7 The Dental Benefits Providers Task Force, under the direction of the HDA Board of Trustees,
8 has met throughout the year. Members Drs. Neil Nunokawa, Kerry Ishihara, and Dayton Lum,
9 along with ex-officio Executive Director Ms. Kim Nguyen, discussed the formulation of the
10 Task Force and the coordination of activities. Drs. Scott Kanamori and Todd Girard have since
11 joined. The Task Force continues to seek a few more members.
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13 The purpose of the Task Force is to research the policies and the business practices of all the
14 dental benefit providers in Hawaii. The Task Force plans to address the membership concerns
15 with dental benefits and providers, and to provide a forum for issue driven discussions with
16 players within the dental benefit arena.
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18 Activities generated through this Task Force were meetings with the ADA Department of State
19 Government Affairs and the Hawaii State insurance commissioner. A dental benefit survey is
20 currently being designed to seek membership input and feedback. Survey results will inform the
21 specific strategies and activities.
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23 The Task Force sees this work as a longer-term project for the HDA Board then was anticipated,
24 and therefore may evolve into a Program if the progress and activities over the next year require
25 such a transition. Until such time, requests for funding will be through the Board.
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28 Respectfully Submitted,
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31 Dayton Lum, DDS
32 Acting Chair
33 Dental Benefits Providers Task Force
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35 **Recommendation of the HOD Reference Task Force on the Report of the Dental Benefits**
36 **Providers Task Force:**
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38 The HOD Reference Task Force recommends that the Report of the Dental Benefits Providers
39 Task Force be accepted.
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41 **Action taken by the House:**
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