

1 Report of the HDA Legislative Program – 2021-H

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3 **Strategic Plan Goal #3 – Advocacy:** Effectively ensure that the profession of dentistry
4 is protected and maintained at the highest regard, among key decision makers and the
5 people of Hawaii, through strong public policy and advocacy efforts.
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8 **Priorities:**

9 Informing the membership of the value of strong and consistent legislative representation
10 by the Hawaii Dental Association is paramount to sustaining effective policy outcomes.
11 Legislation involving dentistry affects all members, general or specialists.
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13 Promoting oral health, enhancing policymaker awareness, and improving the salience of
14 oral health issues will ensure the Hawaii Dental Association is recognized as the experts
15 in dentistry and in improving the oral health of the people of Hawaii.
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17 Ensuring that the profession of dentistry is protected and maintained at the highest regard,
18 among key decision makers and the people of Hawaii, through strong public policy and
19 advocacy efforts.
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21 **Activities:**

22 Year 2020-2021 presented unique challenges due to the COVID-19 meeting restrictions
23 with legislators, yet HDA effectively met with policy leaders including legislators,
24 committee chairs, legislative leaders, and allied organization leaders virtually and when
25 appropriate in person. On the national level, on “January 13, 2021, legislation was
26 enacted that partially repeals the McCarran-Ferguson Act of 1945, a longstanding
27 antitrust exemption for the “business of health insurance,” including the business of
28 dental insurance, as part of the Competitive Health Insurance Reform Act of 2020.” The
29 HDA Legislative Program actively worked on this issue for many years.
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31 The Hawaii Public Policy Advocates, LLC dedicated work served as our lobbying voice
32 on all legislative fronts, coordinating lobbying meetings, preparing and presenting
33 testimony, helping research and draft legislation and responses to legislator requests, and
34 promoting HDA as the state’s preeminent voice on oral health. It launched a new
35 technology advocacy tool called Voter Voice for HDA members to engage in advocacy
36 using mobile devices and it continued to be HDA’s rapid-response team for identifying
37 legislative and policymaking opportunities and threats.
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39 Key state issues of focus include telehealth, licensure, remote continuing education,
40 regulation of dentistry, dental hygiene, proposals to add mid-level providers, and regulate
41 dental assistants, all of which require monitoring and robust advocacy efforts.
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44 Respectfully Submitted,
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47 Norman Chun, DMD
48 Co-Chair

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50 **Recommendation of the HOD Reference Task Force on the Report of the HDA**
51 **Legislative Program:** The HOD Reference Task Force recommends the Report of the
52 HDA Legislative Program be accepted.

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54 **Action taken by the House:** The HDA HOD accepted the Report of the HDA
55 Legislative Program.

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58 **Resolution #2021-09:**

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60 **Background:** In 2022 the Legislative Program will continue to exercise sound fiscal
61 management and requires appropriate funding to perform its responsibilities and
62 recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

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64 **Resolved,** that the House of Delegates budget the sum of \$0 (income) and \$45,000.00
65 (expense) for the conduct of the Legislative Program activities for 2022.

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67 **Recommendation of the HOD Reference Task Force on the HDA Legislative**
68 **Program Resolution #2021-09:** The HOD Reference Task Force recommends the
69 Resolution #2021-09 be adopted.

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71 **Action taken by the House:** The HDA HOD adopted the Resolution #2021-09.