



User's Guide to ADHA's Governmental Affairs Division

One of the most important roles of the Governmental Affairs Division is to assist you in your role as a legislative or public health leader in your state. In addition to providing services to state associations and individual members, we implement action plans developed by ADHA's Councils on Regulation and Practice and Public Health. During Annual Session we coordinate networking sessions on public health, legislative chair issues, advocacy issues and career opportunities.

The following is an overview of some of the services we offer. If you do not find something you need below, do not hesitate to contact us to ask.

Consult on Legislative and Regulatory Projects

We will be happy to collaborate with you and your state lobbyist on drafting legislation, writing testimony and fact sheets, and developing a legislative plan. We can share with you information on what has happened in other states and techniques that have proven successful. We can even put you in contact with leaders from other states.

Provide Data, Statistics and Information on Practice Laws across the Country

We can serve as a resource to you in the preparation of evidence-based information for use in your legislative efforts. If we do not have the data you need on hand, we will do our best to gather it for you. Our technology via TrendTrack allows us to track state legislative and regulatory action across the country.

Help Organize and Energize Grassroots Efforts with VOCUS E-mail Messages

The VOCUS system allows us to broadcast your email message to all association members (including students) in your state who have registered an e-mail address with ADHA. Your state can determine the text of messages to inform members of grassroots efforts, upcoming events, or to provide updates on legislative issues. VOCUS enables us to tailor messages to specific audiences, targeting specific legislative districts or entire legislative committees.

Through VOCUS, we can also provide each state with a list of members matched with state and federal legislators.

Highlight your Successes in the Stateline

Stateline, which appears in every issue of *Access*, serves as a way to inform members of legislative happenings throughout the nation. Governmental Affairs staff prepares the column and is always interested in injecting new information, so if you have news to share that has not yet appeared in Stateline, let us know! Feel free to send pictures of your association in action—at bill sign ceremonies, participating in lobby days, testifying before committees, etc., for inclusion as well.

Divisional Overview

Director –Megan Fitzpatrick (meganf@adha.net)

Megan manages ADHA's federal advocacy efforts with our Washington Counsel at McDermott Will & Emery to promote dental hygiene interests on Capitol Hill, federal agencies and policy makers. Along with visits with legislators, extensive coalition building efforts are also a major focus. Megan works in collaboration with the HYPAC Committee in managing ADHA's political action committee, HYPAC.

Please see our list of written resources on the Governmental Affairs section of the ADHA website (www.adha.org). Many of our charts and maps are available online for easy access and printing—all are available by contacting Connie.

While you are online, please check out the public health and ADHP sections of the website as well as the NEW licensure portability page. We would love feedback from you on what else you would like to see included as a resource material.

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