

CDA Legislative report

Submitted by Shari Becker, CDA, RDA, FADAA

There is much activity happening politically and legislatively as this new year of 2023 is off and running. We have new representatives in many of our districts, and there are newly elected board members on the dental board. There are ongoing conversations with the CDA and other stakeholders as we work to enhance the profession. Entry into the profession, pathways to licensure, and scope of practice are currently areas of focus as well as the ongoing issues with the DAC and DBC.

The last DAC and DBC meeting, November 17-18, 2022, was held in Sacramento.

November 17- DAC meeting:

Joan Greenfield was put on the agenda and discussed the Healthcare Worker Pilot Program she has applied for that is sponsored by CADAT regarding the administration of nitrous oxide and local anesthesia for the RDAEF as an optional certification with additional training.

For the past 9 years, Joan Greenfield has proposed these duties as an option for the RDAEF category. Currently, CADAT is sponsoring Joan with an HWPP in hopes to have the data requested to move forward with this possible added skill. This would be a great opportunity for the RDAEF to better assist and be more fully utilized in conjunction with their current duties.

Further discussion regarding surveys that were sent out to existing RDAEF's and DDS's that employ EF's. Discussion about the educational requirements needing to be more robust and stringent than the RDH or DDS educational requirements. The concern stated was that the education provided in dental assisting programs, including EF programs, is not as inclusive as the education received in an RDH or DDS/DMD program.

There was an update on a survey that was sent to other state boards regarding education requirements for dental assistants. Results are still being compiled and a report is to be included at the next board meeting. There is consideration for reciprocity with the DANB certification, but nothing has been developed at this time.

Discussion about BPC 1750 and specific wording be changed on the IC regulations to read PRIOR to potential exposure to blood or OPIM. This to be revisited at the next board meeting.

Elections for 2023: Cara Miyasaki DAC vice-chair/ Traci Reed-Espinoza DAC chair-other DAC seats remain in place to complete their terms of service.

DBC meeting:

Melodi Randolph suggested future meetings allow for the DAC and DBC hold a joint meeting together to enable more discussion versus hearing a report to the board regarding the DAC meeting.

The new Executive Officer was confirmed to be Tracy Montez. Ms. Montez is replacing Sarah Wallace. Ms. Montez reported the exam applications are now being processed within 2 weeks. There have been 13 new staff hired to assist with catching up on applications and complaints.

November 18, DBC meeting:

Discussion regarding an RDH that wants to also hold an RDA license and the redundancy of requirements and the need to clean up language regarding x-ray, CP, PNF, IC, and CDPA.

Discussion regarding the dental boards accountability for maintaining current certifications/licenses be delegated to the supervising dentist. Testimony that dentists don't currently track certificates/licenses and that this is the board's responsibility. This item was voted to be reviewed during Sunset Review.

Elections were held with Dr. Larin, Secretary/JoAnne Pacheco, Vice President/Alan Felsenfeld, President.

Next meeting- February 9-10, 2023