

CDAА Article

Government Relations

July 1, 2024

Welcome to summer!

SB 1453: The legislative activity marches on! Our lobbyist, Cody Boyles, is doing a great job in assisting us with communication, letter writing and networking. CDAА, CADAT and CEFA (the Alliance) continue to meet with legislators to educate them on dental assisting and share our continued concern with SB 1453. July 2nd, the bill will be heard in the Assembly. Melodi Randolph will be attending and representing the Alliance. Letters were sent to the B and P chair and committee regarding our significant concern with this bill. The issue is the unlicensed dental assistant coronal polishing without any prior education or work experience other than the 8 hour infection control class, CPR, and passing the 12 hour coronal polish course. There had been a previous agreed upon educational and/or work experience requirement for an unlicensed dental assistant to do prior to qualifying to take the coronal polish course. That language was stricken in SB 1453. CDAА, along with the Alliance, is adamant about having that language put back in. The idea of having a rotary instrument that can go at a speed of 60 mph in the mouth with no previous work experience or education we feel is a patient safety issue.

We will continue to voice our concern regarding this issue and anxiously await to hear how the July 2nd hearing goes. It is expected that SB 1453 will pass, but the journey for this bill continues. There will be another hearing as the bill progresses, and there will still be time for potential edits prior to the governor signing SB 1453. The final language will not be final until the governor signs it. So...stay tuned. We will keep you updated as this journey continues.

Thank you for your support. And don't forget that CDAА accepts financial donations to assist in supporting our lobbyist expenses. Go to www.cdaaweb.org and click on the donation button at the bottom of the home page. Please note your donation to be specific to our legislative fund.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve,

Shari Becker, CDA, RDA, FADAA, AS