What is the purpose of this council?
The goal of the Council on Governmental Affairs is to review all legislation introduced into the Legislature of the State of New York, and to advise appropriate legislators of the position of the Association with respect to all proposed legislation of significant interest.

“Job description”: What is expected of me?
General Responsibilities of a Council on Governmental Affairs member:

- To prepare and arrange for introduction of legislation deemed necessary or advisable to promote the dental health of the public and the interests of the Association and its members.
- To cooperate with appropriate agencies of the American Dental Association in advancing the interests of the dental profession and the public in federal legislation and regulation.
- To cooperate with component societies in advancing the interest of the dental profession and the public in legislation and regulation of local government.
- To maintain liaison on behalf of the Association with legislative agencies of other health professions, and such other liaison as may be directed by the House of Delegates.
- To protect the public and the dental profession in matters of legislation and regulations and to make recommendations of plans and methods to the House of Delegates in conformity with its established policies.
- To review all legislation introduced into the Legislature of the State of New York, and to advise appropriate legislators of the position of the Association with respect to all proposed legislation of significant interest.

What will I gain by dedicating my time and talents (What’s in it for me?)
You will be involved in the legislative and regulatory planning and lobbying of the association. You will develop legislative, regulatory, and political strategy to advance association policy goals at the state and local level working with NYSDA’s chief lobbyist.

Seriously, I’m really busy! How much time will this take?
There is an in-person meeting during Lobby Day in Albany and one conference call a year. Staff will notify you and provide you with agenda materials in advance of the meetings. You will be reimbursed for overnight accommodations (if necessary), travel and meal expenses when attending a meeting in Albany.

What are the terms of this committee/council?
The New Dentist member’s term is 2-years, up to a maximum of two consecutive terms (provided the person remains qualified as a new dentist throughout the term), based on recommendation from the New Dentist Committee and nomination by the NYSDA Board of Trustees, with election by the NYSDA House of Delegates.