



Demistifying Advocacy

Tips for Setting Yourself to Get Involved with Advocacy

This session explores key issues affecting the profession and provides an overview of the legislative process. Join the #toothparty and be ready to play a participatory role in ongoing issues.

BELOW ARE A FEW TIPS TO GET YOU STARTED:

- ▶ **Are you interested in advocacy, the political process and becoming an advocacy champion of tomorrow?** We often call on members to visit their elected officials in the official's House/Senate district. Reach out to your local EDPAC representative to learn how to be tapped to make visits with elected officials.
- ▶ **Follow us on Instagram, Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn** to stay up-to-date on legislative happenings that affect you as you build your career.
- ▶ **Attend our annual Lobby Day event/webinar** to learn about our entire advocacy efforts. Then we can connect you with elected political leaders to voice your concerns regarding our legislative priorities.
- ▶ **Get involved in EDPAC**, NYSDA's political action committee. Contributions to EDPAC help elect candidates to state office who understand the importance of dentistry and dentistry's unrelenting commitment to improving oral health care in New York State.

A FEW BILLS NYSDA IS MONITORING

- ▶ **NYSDA Bill to Expand Dentists' Scope of Practice:** Senator Andrew Gounardes has introduced S6383, legislation that would expand the scope of dental practice by eliminating the requirement that the services provided by a dentist, while limited to the oral and maxillofacial area, will no longer be restricted to services only "related to restoring and maintaining dental health." The reference to "dental health" is a useless circular reference and "restoring and maintaining" limits the full breadth of the profession's goal of oral and maxillofacial improvement.
- ▶ **Dental Hygiene Bill:** Currently, qualified dental hygienists with the necessary certification can administer nitrous oxide and local infiltration anesthesia while under the personal supervision of a dentist in conjunction with the performance of dental hygiene procedures. This amendment would allow them to administer such anesthesia in preparation for all dental procedures provided by a dentist, even if such procedures are not defined as dental hygiene services under the law.
- ▶ **Dental Therapist Bill:** We are currently monitoring dental therapist bill (S819/A1749), which would allow for the licensure of dental therapists and advanced dental therapists in NYS. NYSDA opposes this bill.
- ▶ **NYSDA Bill to Amend Dental Practice Act:** This bill amends the Dental Practice Act so that dental assistants are authorized to place and remove temporary restorations, which is part of their dental assisting curriculum/training.

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The Empire Dental Political Action Committee (EDPAC) is the bipartisan voice of thousands of New York State dentists. It helps elect candidates to state office who understand the importance of dentistry and dentistry's unrelenting commitment to improving oral health care in New York State. empiredentalpac.com/



The New York State Dental Association is the leading oral health advocate in our State. NYSDA is constantly on guard to influence public policies affecting the practice of dentistry in NY and the oral health of the American public. Add your voice to the more than 12,000 NYSDA members who make it possible for dentistry to be heard. Get valuable legislative updates at nysdental.org/advocacy

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR LOCAL EDPAC REPRESENTATIVE:

NEW YORK COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY

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SECOND DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY

Counties: Kings • Richmond

Contact: Dr. Valerie Venterina, dentalexcellence@aol.com

THIRD DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY

Counties: Albany • Columbia • Greene • Rensselaer
• Sullivan • Ulster

Contact: Dr. Geoffrey Gamache, ggamache518@gmail.com

FOURTH DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY

Counties: Clinton • Essex • Franklin • Fulton • Hamilton
• Montgomery • Saratoga • Schenectady • Schoharie • Warren
• Washington

Contact: Dr. G. Kirk Gleason, dr.girkgleason@gmail.com

FIFTH DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY

Counties: Herkimer • Jefferson • Lewis • Madison • Oneida
• Onondaga • Oswego • St. Lawrence

Contact: Dr. James Wanamaker, jameswanamaker@gmail.com

SIXTH DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY

Counties: Broome • Chemung • Chenango • Cortland
• Delaware • Otsego • Schuyler • Tioga • Tompkins

Contact: Dr. Betsey Clark, betsey110617@gmail.com

SEVENTH DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY

Counties: Cayuga • Livingston • Monroe • Ontario • Seneca
• Steuben • Wayne • Yates

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EIGHTH DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY

Counties: Allegany • Cattaraugus • Chautauqua • Erie
• Genesee • Niagara • Orleans • Wyoming

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NINTH DISTRICT DENTAL ASSOCIATION

Counties: Dutchess • Orange • Putnam • Rockland • Westchester

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