

Report No.	26	New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Substitute <input type="checkbox"/>	Amendment <input type="checkbox"/>
Submitted By:	Dr. Lynn Stacy, Vice President			
Date Submitted:	May 15, 2026	Reference Committee <input type="checkbox"/>	Direct to House <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Total Financial Implication:	\$ none			
Amount One-time	\$ none	Amount On-going	\$ none	

### Report of the Vice President

1           Looking back over the year as Vice President at NYSDA, we have come a long way  
 2 since last year making strides to improve NYSDA's working relationships. We have had a year  
 3 of open dialog and brought forth many pertinent discussions at the Board of Trustees. We have  
 4 worked hard and collectively used our strengths to move forward and make a stronger NYSDA  
 5 for our member dentists.

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 7           Immediate changes are being made at NYSDA. We have established a relationship with  
 8 a search firm for a New Executive Director to be put into place by the end of 2026. We are  
 9 currently evaluating our lease and space requirements for the future needs of office space at  
 10 NYSDA. The Executive Director and staff at NYSDA have streamlined and consolidated  
 11 positions to reduce the deficit in our budget and work toward a sustainable financial picture. We  
 12 partnered with a new audit firm to evaluate our financial records at NYSDA and passed this  
 13 audit. Thank you to the staff.

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 15           One of our best roles is advocacy for you, our profession, and our patients. Our legislative  
 16 representatives are surprised that yes, we spend considerable time advocating for our patients,  
 17 for the good of the public. I am honored to have gone to Washington, DC and to our Capitol in  
 18 Albany to advocate for our dental profession, as well as against insurance atrocities and for the  
 19 benefit of our patients. This is not time wasted as we are constantly educating our legislative  
 20 representatives about dentistry as a profession, access to care and how the insurance  
 21 companies evade their responsibilities to their clients. I was able to share this time with several  
 22 of our NY dental students. They are well versed in the issues and have made an impact on the  
 23 offices of our representatives. They have brought forth their concerns about the rising costs of  
 24 dental education. Our future is bright. I urge you to take time to talk and inform your local  
 25 representatives and let them know your concerns. They have no idea how your dental practice  
 26 functions or the current needs of our patients or your practice. Become a dental resource for  
 27 them. We have seen advocacy victories in the area of virtual credit cards and are hopefully on  
 28 the edge of other legislative wins with DLR and non-covered services.

29  
 30           I have also spent monthly meetings learning the ins and outs of being a national fluoride  
 31 ambassador. Nationally, we are trying to educate many municipalities across the country of the  
 32 benefits of keeping their water supply Fluoridated. Realizing that if we do not save water  
 33 fluoridation, our jobs will get harder and our patients will suffer. Access to care will become more  
 34 strained as we all know that caries rates go up significantly within a few short years.

35 Dental Deserts and access to care are still at the forefront of the dental political arena. How do  
36 we get the dentists into these "Dental Deserts"? We made small inroads; I have had the  
37 pleasure of participating in Giving Vets a Smile and our NYS Dental foundation is soon to hold a  
38 RAM event in Livingston County this October. But we need more permanent solutions for the  
39 oral health of New York State residents.

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41 Workforce is an ongoing issue in our profession. We need to inform young people about  
42 the availability of life-long careers within the dental profession. We hope the new dental  
43 hygiene school at Mohawk Valley Community College Rome, NY will be accepting their first  
44 class of 30 students this fall. The school is just waiting for final approval through the NY State  
45 Education Department, SUNY and the Governor's office.

46  
47 To my fellow colleagues at the House of Delegates, the executive board, the Board of  
48 Trustees, the staff, and our families, thank you for the countless hours of time you have invested  
49 in our leadership skills. You, the member dentist, are what it takes to make NYSDA work. I look  
50 forward to hearing your ideas and concerns for next year. I will address issues at hand and look  
51 forward to working with our new Board of Trustees to help resolve concerns that have been  
52 brought before us by membership.