



## Advocacy in Action

Helping Dental Practices by Stopping or Minimizing Over-regulation by the Federal Government

### ADA Advocates for Dental Practices

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THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS THAT GOVERN DENTAL PRACTICES CAN BE COSTLY AND TIME-CONSUMING. HERE ARE WAYS THE ADA HELPS YOUR PRACTICE WHEN IT PREVENTS INEFFECTIVE POLICIES AND LAWS FROM GOING INTO EFFECT.

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- Stopped the Red Flag Rule (2010) from being implemented (saving dentists an estimated \$500/practice). The Red Flag Rule would require dentists and other health care providers to develop and implement a written identity theft program for their practices.
- Prevented elimination of the cash method of accounting, allowing dentists to continue paying taxes on revenue they receive, versus what they bill to patients. This would potentially save thousands of dollars for the average dental practice.
- Secured concessions in a new law requiring dentists to complete 8 hours of one-time training as a condition of obtaining or renewing a DEA registration—by removing a requirement to complete training on topics outside a dentist's scope of practice (e.g., prescribing buprenorphine, etc.) and allowing relevant state-recognized training, dental school coursework, and courses taken prior to the law's passage to satisfy the requirement.
- Secured National Fire Protection Association standards that saved every dental office that uses nitrous oxide sedation up to \$50,000 in costs associated with building, monitoring, and retrofitting their gas lines.
- Prevented steep cuts to oral health training programs, which enabled residents to continue being paid during their residency period.
- Enabled dentists to continue balance billing under a law that prohibited medical providers from doing so.
- Prevented the student loan interest deduction from being eliminated (\$2,500 above the line tax credit), secured market-based interest rates and interest rate caps on federal student loans, and created income-based repayment options.
- Defeated a Medicare Part B dental benefit legislative proposal that would have been unworkable for the specialized nature of the dental care delivery system.
- Stopped the 2.3 percent tax increase on the sale of medical devices from taking effect, which would have been passed down to dentists in the form of price increases.
- Secured a favorable Department of Education rule that eliminates certain "capitalizing events" that cause a borrower's accrued, unpaid interest to become part of the principal balance of their student loan and implements reforms to the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program.
- Prevented OSHA from rushing to finalize a rule that would remove the small practice exemption from adopting more specialized infection controls (e.g., hospital grade) to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Learn more by visiting [ADA.org/advocacy](https://ada.org/advocacy).