Minutes of the CDA Government Affairs Council Meeting
CDA Building, 1201 K Street, 15 Floor, Sacramento
December 6, 2023, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Welcome and Call to Order

1. Call to Order: Vice Chair Dr. Veronica Greene called the meeting of the Government Affairs Council to order at 9:40 a.m. on December 6, 2023.

2. Establishment of Quorum: Chair Dr. Erin Shah determined that a quorum was present. The following members were in attendance:
   - Dr. Paul Ayson
   - Dr. Letitia Edwards
   - Dr. Veronica Greene
   - Dr. Robert Hanlon
   - Dr. Irene Hilton
   - Dr. Kevin Keating
   - Dr. Huong Le
   - Dr. Carliza Marcos
   - Dr. Erin Shah
   - Dr. Rutu Shah
   - Dr. Travis Smith
   - Dr. Dennis Song

Guests/Liaisons:
   - Dr. Marie Alejandrino-Buell, LDP participant
   - Dr. Robert Hanlon, ADA CGA liaison
   - Dr. Max Martinez, 2025 CDA president
   - Dr. Gerald Middleton, CDA PAC chair
   - Dr. Bruce Whitcher, Dental Board liaison

Staff:
   - Meghan Fetherston, legislative analyst
   - Carrie Gordon, chief strategy officer
   - Mary McCune, director, policy & CDA
   - Foundation executive director
   - Monica Montano, regulatory & legislative advocate
   - Jessica Moran, legislative advocate
   - Brianna Pittman-Spencer, sr. government affairs director
   - Todd Roberson, public affairs director & CDA
   - PAC executive director
   - Alison Sandman, chief legal officer

3. Introduction of New Council Members: Drs. Paul Ayson, Robert Hanlon, and Rutu Shah were introduced as new members of the council. Additionally, guests Drs. Marie Alejandrino-Buell and Max Martinez were also introduced.

4. Participation Expectations: Chair Dr. Erin Shah recited the participation expectations to the council.

5. Approval of the Agenda: The agenda was approved as presented.

Consent Agenda: The council adopted the following items on consent.

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes – August 2, 2023 (approved)

Regular Business

1. 2024 Political Landscape: The council received an update on the political landscape, including the state budget, legislative leadership changes, and the MCO ballot initiative.

2. Reports of Liaisons: The council received reports from the following liaisons.
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3. **Federal Update:** The council received an update on federal oral health efforts in Congress, as well as the Medicare Workgroup.

4. **Medi-Cal Dental Program:** The council received an update on the Medi-Cal dental program and an introduction to a guest speaker.

5. **Guest Speaker, Adrianna Alcala-Beshara, Division Chief, Medi-Cal Dental Services Division:** Guest Speaker, Adrianna Alcala-Beshara provided an overview of the Medi-Cal Dental program and recent improvements and answered questions of committee members.

6. **Guest Speaker, Assemblymember Buffy Wicks:** Guest Speaker, Assemblymember Buffy Wicks provided insight what it is like being a legislator, the processes of creating legislation and answered questions of committee members.

7. **Election of a Vice Chair:** The council elected Dr. Veronica Greene as vice chair and adopted the following resolution:

   Resolved, that Dr. Veronica Greene serve as the 2024 government affairs council vice chair.

8. **MLR Update:** The council received an update on the medical loss ratio landscape nationally and in California.

9. **2024 Sponsored and Priority Legislation:** The council received information from staff on legislative proposals and voted to explore potential advocacy on the following issues:

   a. Electronic Payments/Virtual Credit Cards

   b. Dental Assisting Scope Expansion

   c. Moderate Sedation (SB 501) Clean-up

   d. Adult Dental Essential Health Benefit

   e. HPV Vaccinations

**Information Only**

**Adjournment:** The council meeting adjourned at 3:58 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2024 via teleconference.

[Signature]

[Date Signed]

[Date Approved]