



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. Huong Le
Dr. Letitia Edwards	Dr. Carliza Marcos
Dr. Veronica Greene	Dr. Erin Shah
Dr. Robert Hanlon	Dr. Rutu Shah
Dr. Irene Hilton	Dr. Travis Smith
Dr. Kevin Keating	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 Witcher, 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.

- a. Dental Board of California, Dr. Bruce Whitcher
 - b. ADA Council on Government Affairs, Dr. Robert Hanlon
 - c. CDA PAC, Dr. Gerald Middleton
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 Alcalá-Beshara, Division Chief, Medi-Cal Dental Services Division: Guest Speaker, Adrianna Alcalá-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.



Chair Signature

3/6/2024

Date Signed

Date Approved