

COUNCIL ON GOVERNMENTAL AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
RESOLUTION TO IMPROVE DENTAL WORKFORCE

WHEREAS, there is a shortage in New Jersey of trained and licensed dental auxiliary personnel, and;

WHEREAS, there are a limited number of educational facilities and pathways in the state that provide the necessary training of dental auxiliaries, and;

WHEREAS, the members of the New Jersey Dental Association Council on Governmental and Public Affairs unanimously recommend that the Association take any action to improve this situation, be it

RESOLVED, that the Association introduce, endorse and support the necessary legislative, regulatory or other policy changes to accelerate, streamline, and improve educational opportunities for dental auxiliary personnel including, but not limited to, licensed radiology technologists; adopting intermediary, and expanded scope of practice opportunities for dental assistants, distance learning and apprenticeships for dental assistants and dental hygienists, and adopting the dentist/dental hygienist licensure compact developed and endorsed by the American Dental Association and the Council on State Governments.

Be it further RESOLVED that an ad hoc committee, which may include representatives of other organizations that are members of the NJ Dental Collaborative, be established to identify and enumerate specific actions, which may include, changes in education, and the scope of practice for dental assistants and dental hygienists. This committee will engage with the American Dental Association, the Commission on Dental Accreditation, the Dental Assisting National Board, and an investigation of best practices exhibited in other states.