



January 25, 2021

To: Advisory Committee for Oral Health Nevada (AC4OH)

From: The Nevada Dental Hygienists' Association (NDHA)

RE: NDHA update for January 29, 2021

The Nevada Dental Hygienists Association (NDHA) advocates for language that utilizes licensed dental providers to improve access to care, increase medical-dental integration, and ensures public safety.

- In November 2020, the NDHA provided input on the Request for Proposal of the new Medicaid Dental Benefit Administrator that included: streamlining provider enrollment, improvement of reimbursement rates, expansion of coverage, medical-dental integration, and improvement of cancellation rates.
- The NDHA fully supports the current bill language for all licensed dental practitioners in Nevada to administer vaccines to improve vaccination rates and access to basic healthcare services. The NDHA is focused on gathering support from our dental hygiene community and will be hosting a vaccine information webinar on Feb 4<sup>th</sup>. The webinar will have key content expert speakers from the medical and nonprofit communities and it will allow the NDHA to introduce the vaccination bill language and launch our social media campaign *#RDHpartnersinhealth* that reinforces our legislative efforts.
- The NDHA will continue to partner with and endorse the Oral Health Bill sponsored by Senator Ratti which includes language for dental hygienists to be added to the list of recognized healthcare providers in Nevada, defines a dental home and a dental emergency responder, as well as teledentistry language.
- The NDHA is participating in Nevada Oral Health Program's National Children's Dental Health Month Campaign in February and is preparing for Oral Health Matters Day in March.
- The NDHA continues to aid the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners in the ongoing implementation of dental therapy language.
- The NDHA is planning continuing education events, both virtual and in-person, for 2021, that promote lifelong learning and camaraderie.

Please feel free to reach out if any additional information is needed. Thank you to the AC4OH for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

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