



American Dental Political Action Committee

Dentists of Alaska Political Action Committee

23 January 2012

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Rep. Kurt Olson
State Capitol, Rm 24
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Olson:

On behalf of the Alaska Dental Society I want to welcome you to Juneau for the second session of the 27th Legislature. Thank you for taking time to discuss issues of importance to the dental society during the past year.

The Alaska Dental Society will be bringing several issues to your attention during this session. SB92, a Senate L&C bill, provides needed changes and restructuring to the Dental Practice Act and we will be encouraging the legislature and the governor to extend the Boards and Commissions, including the Dental Board, that sunsets last year. A brief statement outlining the ADS position on each of these issues is enclosed. I encourage you to contact me at drdave@acsalaska.net or 907-723-2884 with any questions you may have.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Logan".

David Logan, DDS
Legislative Chair, Alaska Dental Society



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SB92

An Act relating to dental hygienists, dentists, dental assistants, dental hygiene and dentistry

SB92, a Senate L&C bill, is a long overdue rewrite of the Dental Practice Act. It has been 25 years since the Practice Act had a complete revision and although it has been modified many times during the years much of the language and phrasing has become antiquated. In 2010 the Alaska Dental Society, along with the Alaska Dental State Hygiene association and the Board of Dental Examiners, formed a work group to review the Act in its entirety. SB92 is the product of that work group, along with input from ANTHC, the Division of Occupational Licensing and the Attorney General's office.

During the 1st session, SB92 went through various Senate Committees before passing the Senate 20-0. This year the bill starts in House L&C on its way through the House.

SB92 is a lengthy bill, 21 pages in its current version, but makes few substantial changes. Two changes of note: the Board would now have a fulltime investigator instead of a part time one with the additional cost borne by the license holders and the definition of ownership of a dental practice is expanded allowing nonprofit entities and surviving spouses of dentists to own dental practices.

Given the volume of the remaining changes rather than detail the changes here I would be happy to discuss the changes with yourself or staff. I can be reached at drdave@acsalaska.net or 723-2884.



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Sunset date for Board of Dental Examiners

In 2011 the Board of Dental Examiners, along with the Board of Nursing, the Board of Barbers and Hairdressers and the Alcohol Control Board sunsetted. The sunsetted Boards in 2011 will be terminated in June, 2012 unless action is taken to extend the boards.

The need for extending the Boards is self evident and the Dental Society recognizes the Legislature intends to take action this session to extend the Boards.

The Alaska Dental Society will be happy to work with any legislator or committee to implement the needed legislation to extend the sunsetted boards.



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