Through the years, PDA has used dentists’ collective voice in the legislative arena to accomplish great things:

**PASSED** legislation limiting the time frame in which insurers may retroactively review and deny dental claims to 24 months.

**PASSED** legislation prohibiting insurers from capping fees for dental services which are not covered in a patient’s plan.

**PASSED** legislation requiring insurers to cover the cost of general anesthesia when needed to treat patients of any age with special needs or children seven years of age or younger.

**PASSED** legislation allowing out-of-state dentists to apply for temporary licenses so that they may volunteer at charitable events or assist during states of emergency.

**PASSED** legislation that expands the scope of practice for expanded function dental assistants to include some hygiene functions performed under dentists’ direct supervision.

**AMENDED** legislation requiring dentists to carry malpractice insurance by including an exemption for dentists with volunteer licenses and those who practice in community based settings.

**AMENDED** legislation to safeguard patients and require additional training and education for public health dental hygiene practitioners practicing independently in public settings.

**REINSTATED** funding in the state budget for Dental Lifeline Network’s Donated Dental Services program.

**SECURED** additional funding in the state’s health care practitioner loan forgiveness program for dentists who agree to practice in shortage areas in exchange for student loan forgiveness.

**DEFEATED** legislation that would have required dentists to submit proof of having paid taxes before renewing their dental license, threatening their livelihood if the state made mistakes processing this information.

**DEFEATED** legislation allowing municipalities to remove fluoride from water supplies without prior notification to the public or Department of Environmental Protection.

**REMOVED** provisions in a city ordinance that required dentists to install amalgam separators and display a poster in their offices needlessly alarming patients about the dangers of “mercury amalgam.”

**TRANSFORMED** the dental profession by convincing the legislature to legitimize the practice of expanded function dental assistants, increasing dental office productivity.

**STOPPED** the legislature from passing a bill prohibiting dentists from administering general anesthesia and deep sedation in their offices.

To learn more about current legislative efforts visit the Government Relations page at [www.padental.org/gr](http://www.padental.org/gr).