

# LEGISLATIVE VICTORIES

Through your support, PDA has:

**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.

**REMOVED** the dental profession from legislation that would have required dentists to modify their offices to comply with requirements for ambulatory surgical centers.

**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.

**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."

**DEFEATED** legislation requiring dentists to report information to the state's Internet database comparing fees for dental services and treatment.

**FORCED** an insurance company to reinstate its policy providing health care coverage for the removal of wisdom teeth.

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

**AMENDED** legislation to prohibit dental hygienists from opening independent private practices, while requiring additional training and education for those hygienists practicing independently in public settings.

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

**SUCCEEDED** in keeping dentistry out of legislation expanding the sales tax to include taxation of health care-related services.

**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).