

Government Affairs Planning Meeting
August 3, 2019, 9:30 am
IDA Central Office

Present: Dr. Steve Holm, chair, Dr. John Roberts, Dr. Steve Ellinwood, Dr. Timothy Treat, Dr. Terry Schechner, Dr. Jenny Neese, Dr. David Holwager, Ed Popcheff and Doug Bush Absent: Dr. Greg Phillips

Dr. Holm started the meeting by reviewing our list of policy issues for discussion for the 2020 legislative session.

The first issue discussed was opioids regulation. Staff expects some activity and some bills to be introduced. IDA's major role right now is education and compliance with existing regulations. IDA will be prepared for any future legislation during the 2020 session.

Definition of Dentistry is a high priority. Staff is pursuing an author for the 2020 session.

Hygiene Legislation: IDHA would like the following issues addressed during the 2020 session:

- Hygiene administration of n02 under direct supervision
- Administration of topical anesthetic under prescriptive supervision
- Eliminate 2 hour restriction for basic life support
- Eliminate restriction on hygienist receiving 4 hours of CE for teaching
- Allow electronic orders
- Eliminate patient of record, and add comprehensive or periodic exam to statute
- Exam interval from 7 months to 12 months
- Cleanup of Hygienist Laser Use

Dr. Holm will be presenting this proposal to the Governmental Affairs Committee in September and the committee will present a recommendation to the Board of Trustees. The group recommended opposing the 7 to 12 months change for prescription supervision.

Budget Priorities for 2021: IDA will keep Dental Lifeline funding as a medium priority and we should pursue greater funding for the 2021 year.

Mr. Bush discussed an omnibus access to care bill. The committee discussed this concept but there was no consensus on what would be in this omnibus bill or if this would be pursued during the 2020 or 2021 session. To be considered by full committee.

Mid Level Providers: The group had a discussion on the midlevel provider issue and speculated where the midlevel proposal would come from. Dr. Holwager has prepared a position paper that will be refined for consideration by the 2020 IDA House of Delegates. High priority if introduced in 2020; monitor if no bill is introduced.

Compliance Fund: The group discussed the compliance fund and expressed a desire that the money be transferred to the original student loan forgiveness statute. Staff indicated that such a move would be more appropriate for a budget year and cautioned that the funding was currently being used to fund ISBD employees. Low Priority.

Third Party Payer Issues: The council discussed the following third party issues:

- Medical Loss Ratio
- Downcoding
- Non covered Services

- AOB
- Delayed payments processing speed, processing issues
- Debit card benefits
- Rental Networks
- Mandated payment method for reimbursement (DDS needs to take payment)

The Committee discussed the merits of pursuing these issues through legislative measures. Dr. Holm questioned why Governmental Affairs Committee is vetting and studying third party payer issues rather than the dental benefits subcommittee. The Committee requested that the chair of dental benefits be invited to the next meeting and that the subcommittee on dental benefits prioritize these proposals.

Mr. Bush briefed the group on the availability of SPA grants available for the purpose of third party payer initiatives. The deadline for SPA grant application is in the fall.

Medicaid: Medicaid is an emerging issue. Dr. Holm has stated that the Medicaid Subcommittee is developing a plan to communicate our concerns to the legislators, OMPP and the Medicaid Advisory Committee. The plan includes a meeting with the director of OMPP, develop talking points, and meeting with the new legislators on the MAC. High Priority.

Student Loan Repayment: Sen. Randy Head is retiring from the Indiana General Assembly leaving Rep. Ethan Manning as the potential legislative champion for loan repayment. Staff was directed to communicate our support for the introduction of a loaned repayment program during the 2020 session, High Priority.

Rule Expiration Issues and ISBD Changes: The Committee discussed the repeal of the statute governing referral services as the administrative rule has been repealed. A second issue that the ISBD requested the IDA address is “three strikes and you’re out” policy for dental exams. Staff was directed to approach the ISBD about including both of these issues with the goal of seeking the introduction of legislation to remedy these issues.

Teledentistry: Staff explained the difference between the current telehealth laws and what we are considering to develop in Indiana. The existence of do it yourself (DIY) dentistry has complicated the task of developing teledentistry public policy for the state of Indiana. Mr. Bush urged caution in developing policy. High Priority - Research other states.

Soda Tax: This is an issue for 2021 budget session. Low Priority.

Dental Day at the Capitol: Dr. Holm urged Dr. Treat to have the public affairs subcommittee lock in a date for Dental Day. Given that IUSD has a new dean, it is essential that we confirm details with IUSD. Monday February 10, 2020, is the tentative date selected for IUSD and IDA Dental Day at the Capitol.

Rep. Zent: Dr. Holwager urged the IDA to have fundraiser for Denny Zent this fall. IDPAC agreed to sponsor a fundraiser in the fall. The Committee would also like to do a fundraiser.

Other Legislative Issues to Watch: Dr. Treat brought up other issues to watch: Tobacco purchase age to 21, nurse licensure compact, electronic prescription. These issues have been assigned the Interim Study Committee on Public and Behavioral Health. Dr. Holwager brought up vaccine administration. The group suggested that we monitor the issue.

The next meeting of the Governmental Affairs Committee is scheduled for Friday, September 20, 2019, 11:00am. IDPAC is meeting 9:30am.