

## Dr. Watson-Lowry Testifies for ADA at House Committee

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On May 17, Dr. Cheryl Watson-Lowry of Chicago testified on behalf of the American Dental Association at a congressional hearing last week examining "initiatives to advance public health." The Energy and Commerce Committee's subcommittee on health examined four bills, including the ADA's **Action for Dental Health Act** (H.R. 2422), which, according to Dr. Watson-Lowry, could "positively affect every patient in my practice, which is why I am so passionate about it." Subcommittee Chairman Rep. Greg Walden (R-Ore.) invited the Association to testify at the May 17 hearing.

Dr. Watson-Lowry described her practice and explained how H.R. 2422, introduced only a few days before the hearing by Rep. Robin Kelly (D-Ill.), would help her patients, who include a range of professions and income levels. The bill would authorize additional funds for the Department of Health and Human Services to support volunteer oral health promotion and disease prevention programs. Dr. Watson-Lowry's testimony on the ADH focused on two of the program's initiatives: emergency room referral programs and the ADA's Community Dental Health Coordinator program.

Dentist lawmaker Rep. Mike Simpson (R-Idaho) offered support for the legislation in a **letter** to the committee. Read more about Dr. Watson-Lowry's testimony **[here](#)**.