ISDS House Actions Become Law
Posted: September 1, 2011

SB1602 was signed into law on August 23, 2011. This new law makes a number of changes to the Illinois Dental Practice Act that will affect dentists as of this date forward.

Included in the new law are requirements that every dentist must provide proof of basic life support (BLS) at the time of licensure renewal. In addition, the Dental Practice Act now allows dentists and hygienists to count up to 4 hours of volunteer clinical service as part of their continuing education requirement for licensure. SB1602 also expanded the scope of dental assistant duties to include placing, carving and finishing amalgam restorations upon the completion of an approved course and certification by the Department. Finally, the new act places requirements on dentists who operate mobile dental vans so that the patient can get copies of their records for follow up care.

All of these changes are a result of the 2010 ISDS House of Delegate's actions in passing proposals that required the ISDS Governmental Affairs Committee and the ISDS Board of Directors to more forward and place these resolutions into practical application by changing the statutes through the legislative process. The time line for this takes approximately one year—at a minimum— if everything goes as planned. When our House of Delegates passes a resolution, there is no guarantee that it will become law; there are often many steps and obstacles that have to be overcome to reach the point where it becomes the law of the land.

Your support of DENT-IL-PAC and our legislative efforts play a large role in assisting our legislative team in passing the important changes our delegates debate and pass each year at the Annual Session of the ISDS House.