

NODA News

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NODA News

MISSION STATEMENT

To maintain a cohesive organization that serves its membership by promoting the art, science and professionalism of dentistry, and by communicating the value of optimal oral health to the community.

VOL. 56

JULY '18

NO. 06

Sales Tax Exemption on Dental Devices Resumes July 1

by Dr. Gizelle Richard - Chair, Council on Government Affairs & Ward Blackwell, M.J. - Executive Director, LDA



Hold on to more of your hard earned dollars! The LDA government affairs team just received guidance from the LA Department of Revenue (LDR) confirming that, effective July 1, 2018, the exemption from sales tax for dental devices will be fully reinstated to be effective in the same manner as it was prior to the implementation of all the "temporary" sales taxes three years ago. In the past, we have estimated that the average dental practice will save at least \$5,000 per year with this sales tax exemption that the LDA has successfully lobbied to get reinstated!

The LDA is in the process of contacting dental labs through their association and as many of the supply companies that we can reach. Should

you need to show your own dental supply representatives, the line that is specific to the dental device exemption, it is on page 14 of the attached document: Taxable Rate of Transactions for Exemptions and Exclusions for periods July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2025.

Also, Act 1 of the 2018 third special session is the statutory authority on which the LDR advisory is based: <http://www.legis.la.gov/legis/ViewDocument.aspx?d=1105364>

Note that the provisions in Act 1 that specifically exempt dental devices (which can be found on pages 9, 19, 28 and 38) all reference the original statutory language of the exemption in La. R.S. 47:305(D)(1)(t). That statute clearly states that the exemption applies to local sales taxes as well. So, all devices to which the exemption applies - which should be pretty much everything labs sell to dentists

- should be exempt from both state AND local sales taxes beginning Sunday, July 1.

This information is also posted on the LDA website should you need to show your lab or supply company. NOTE: We are checking with the LDR to see what the impact will be on taxes paid by dentists from October 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018, in light of the October 1, 2017, effective date in Act 395 of the 2017 regular session. More info coming soon.....

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President's Message

by Kristopher P. Rappold, D.D.S. – NODA President



Dear NODA Members,

I hope everyone is having a fantastic summer of fun with their families and

getting a most deserved opportunity to enjoy some time away from the office. Since the last time we were together, the Golden State Warriors swept the Cleveland Cavaliers, the Florida State Seminoles won the NCCA Women's College Softball World Series, and LSU, well, they are just waiting for football, right?!

The New Orleans Dental Conference and LDA Annual Session was held at the Hyatt Regency over the Memorial Day weekend. Those who attended stated that it was one of the best speaker lineups they have seen and are very much looking forward to next year. Thank you very much to the hard working individuals of the New Orleans Dental Conference and LDA Annual Session Committee. Careful analysis of this year's conference has occurred and things are shaping up to be even better in 2019. Don't miss out!

The LSU Dental School had a recent ribbon cutting ceremony to open the brand new Advanced Clinical Care and Research Building. The \$31 million building ranges across 64,899 square feet and houses a 22-chair faculty dental practice ranging across all specialties, a separate Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Clinic that has 9 treatment rooms with 2 operating rooms, and clinical research area. Our

own, Dr. Kristi Soileau, was one of the featured speakers at the event.

In national dental news, there are 57 opioid bills that have advanced to the House floor. Many of the bills are helping to support safe prescribing practices and end opioid misuse. However, the Every Prescription Conveyed Securely Act (H.R. 3528), would require e-prescribing for coverage of prescription drugs listed as controlled substances under the Medicare Part D program which many general dentists may consider unfavorable. The Resident Education Deferred Interest Act has also been introduced where the bill would suspend interest accrual on loans in forbearance or deferment and taken out by graduate students who qualify for the internship/residency category of delayed payment options. Many of the residents earn low pay for their participation in the programs and often are unable to begin immediately repaying student debt. This loan repayment reform would save these individuals in residency thousands of dollars in interest.

In the latest dental research, there have been several interesting advances. Many denture wearers suffer from frequent fungal infections. The University at Buffalo is using 3D printing to build dentures filled with microscopic capsules that periodically release Amphotericin B. In addition, researchers are also studying the effects of two certain polyphenols isolated from red wine, caffeic and p-coumaric acids, and their effect on bacteria

that cause plaque, cavities, and periodontal disease. Drink up!

The next NODA General Membership meeting will be on September 19, 2018. Dr. Richard Akin will be providing a wonderful lecture entitled, "*A Surgeon's Perspective on Immediate Implant Tissue Management*," where you will learn how to quickly and effectively provisionalize implants and provide chairside custom healing abutments. Come enjoy an interesting topic with a great speaker and great wine! I hear it just may help you avoid gum disease and dental decay :)

Your President,
Kristopher P. Rappold, DDS,
MAGD, FACD

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LDA Worked Hard at Past Legislative Session for Dentistry in Louisiana

Dr. Gizelle Richard - Chair, Council on Government Affairs
Ward Blackwell, M.J. - Executive Director, LDA

The 2018 regular session of the Louisiana Legislature adjourned sine die on Friday, May 18, a full two and a half weeks before the legally required deadline. However, the early adjournment was an integral part of a strategy conceived by legislative leaders to allow for yet another special session – the sixth in three years – to be conducted during the time the legislature would normally be in a regular session. This would ensure the 2nd special session of 2018 would not cost taxpayers any additional money. Legislators were accused by some observers of wasting public funds when the first special session earlier this year adjourned

with nothing of consequence accomplished.

The same divisions between several different factions in the House that prohibited the mustering of a 2/3 majority for any sort of revenue-raising measure during that first special session showed no clear signs of coming together during the regular session. That could make for yet another volatile special session during which LDA will have to be hyper-vigilant to ensure there is adequate funding for dental Medicaid and the dental school, as well as no successful effort to undo the pending reinstatement of the sales tax exemption for dental devices.

Meanwhile, here is a report on the fate of the key bills LDA tracked in the regular session:

HB 1 (Henry) – The final estimate of revenues for the coming year, after taking into account the recent changes in federal tax law, still left the State short by about \$648 million of funding what pretty much everyone agreed was the desired budget. Being forced to work with that revenue forecast, the House passed a version of HB 1 that dealt with the shortfall by slashing funding for the Department of Health (LDH) exclusively. When adding in the loss of federal matching dollars for Medicaid, those cuts totaled nearly \$1.5 billion. Conversely, the version of HB 1 that passed the Senate fully funded LDH, but included steep cuts to almost every other area of the budget that wasn't constitutionally protected. Ultimately, the House went along with most of the Senate's version, but NO ONE actually wanted such a budget. **The governor made it a moot point by vetoing the bill**, ensuring that yet another budget bill will be filed in the special session that began June 18.

HB 134 (Anders) – This is the LDA's bill to require insurance companies to make it easy to discern on patient ID cards which

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LDA Worked Hard at Past Legislative Session for Dentistry in Louisiana - Con't.

Dr. Gizelle Richard - Chair, Council on Government Affairs

Ward Blackwell, M.J. - Executive Director, LDA

plans are self-insured and which are fully insured. This is important since some state laws (e.g., dental freedom of choice law) don't apply to self-funded plans. **The bill passed both chambers with no opposition, was signed by the governor and is effective 1/1/19.**

HB 429 (Cromer) – This is the LDA's bill that would prohibit a dental insurance company from denying a claim for a procedure for which the company had issued a prior authorization. A dental insurance company would also be prohibited from recouping a paid claim if the company had confirmed coverage/eligibility for the patient and later found the patient was not covered/eligible but SHOULD have known. The bill encountered some opposition from dental insurance companies, especially Delta Dental. But ultimately, a few amendments were negotiated that left Delta alone in its opposition, and they ultimately decided to back down. **The bill has been signed by the governor and is effective 1/1/19.**

HB 472 (Thibaut) – This bill, introduced at the behest of the Department of Insurance (LDI), would have created a reinsurance fund with the hope that it might help lower rates in the individual health insurance market. The fund would have taken advantage of a provision in the Affordable Care Act that would allow the State to

receive federal assistance, provided the State could put up matching funds. The problem was, the bill provided that the state money for the new fund would have come from a new tax on ALL health insurance plans, even though only those insurers that offer individual coverage (i.e., Blue Cross and Vantage) would benefit from the fund. Worst of all, the original language in the bill would have double taxed multiple-employer self-insured plans such as the one the LDA is just now starting. The bill was amended in the Senate to tax only those plans that would benefit from the fund, at which point the LDA dropped its opposition to the bill. However, the bill eventually died in the Senate. It should be noted, though, that companion legislation to this bill WAS passed. That companion legislation will allow LDI to still create a reinsurance fund for individual health insurance, provided LDI can identify another source for the matching funds.

HB 734 (McFarland) – This bill mandated substantial new requirements for Medicaid managed care organizations (MCOs) to report data to LDH and for LDH to share that data with the Health and Welfare committees of the legislature. LDA was successful in getting the bill amended so it also applies to any dental MCOs (i.e., MCNA) for the initial data reporting. We should have little trouble convincing the committees to require LDH

to continue collecting dental MCO data thereafter. **The bill has been signed by the governor and is effective 8/1/18.**

HB 780 (Magee) – This is the LDA's bill to create an independent review process for dental Medicaid claims that have been denied. The process delineated by the bill is very similar to the one described in a bill passed last year that created an independent review process for non-dental Medicaid claims that are denied. Both processes would be "loser pays," but the considerable expense of the non-dental review was deemed by the LDA to be a barrier to dentists utilizing that independent review process. Accordingly, the major difference between this dental review bill and last year's bill is that independent reviews of dental Medicaid claims will be performed by dentists selected from a panel comprised of LSUSD faculty members. This should allow for a significantly lower cost per review. **The bill has been signed by the governor and is effective 8/1/18.**

SB 260 (Milkovich) – This bill would require that a licensee facing disciplinary action by the occupational or professional licensing board that had issued his/her license could opt to have the matter adjudicated by an administrative law judge rather than a panel com-

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prised of members of the licensing board. (The licensee could also choose to have the panel adjudicate, as is current practice.) LDA had actually lobbied for such a provision in a bill filed last year by Senator Mills that failed to pass (due to other provisions in the bill). SB 260 was amended by a House committee to apply only to the boards of dentistry, medicine and auctioneers, but had no trouble passing after that. **The bill has been signed by the governor and is effective 8/1/18.**

Other bills of interest to LDA members:

HB 189 (Wright) – This bill requires that most agencies in the executive branch conduct public hearings at least once every six years at which they entertain comments on ANY rule of that agency. The agencies shall also issue response to said comments and provide all that information to the appropriate legislative oversight committee. Signed by the governor and effective 1/1/19.

HB 194 (Howard) – This bill limits the period in which a health insurance company can recoup payments to providers to no more than 18 months after a claim was

initially paid. **Signed by the governor and effective 8/1/18.**

HB 372 (Connick) – This bill creates within the governor's office the Occupational Licensing Review Commission. All occupational licensing boards controlled by "active market participants," including the State Board of Dentistry (LSBD), will be required to obtain approval from the commission prior to promulgating any new regulations. This bill specifically addresses the issues raised in the FTC vs. North Carolina Board of

Con't. pg 6



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Ward Blackwell, M.J. - Executive Director, LDA*

Dentistry case by ensuring direct oversight of such board's regulatory authority. **The bill has been signed by the governor and was effective 5/30/18.**

SB 40 (Mills) – This bill added a public member to almost all occupational licensing boards, including the LSBOD. It also sunsetted the Water Fluoridation Advisory Board. **The bill has been signed by the governor and is effective 8/1/18.**

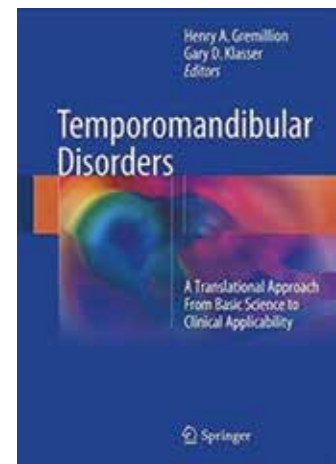
SB 90 (Mills) – This bill requires LDH to create a “voluntary nonopioid directive” form that patients may fill out and give to their health care provider(s). The providers are then obliged to honor the patient's preference to not be issued prescriptions for any opioid medications. The bill also absolves providers from any professional liability for any claims arising out of complying with the directive. **The bill has been signed by the governor and is effective 8/1/18.**

Local Dental School Faculty Drs. Gremillion and Klasser Publish New TMD Book

A new book by Dr. Henry Gremillion, professor and dean of the LSU Health School of Dentistry, and Dr. Gary Klasser, associate professor of diagnostic sciences, provides a unique approach to the management of temporomandibular disorders (TMD). Temporomandibular Disorders; A Translational Approach from Basic Science to Clinical Applicability, published by Springer, acquaints the reader with the basic science principles needed to understand and manage TMD in accordance with the tenets of evidence-based dental medicine.

Contributions from experts in the field cover fundamental principles, normal function of the masticatory system, dysfunction of the system, and management principles. The final chapter discusses

psychosocial considerations in TMD. By following a translational approach to evidence-based practice measures as outlined in this book, the clinician will be excellently positioned to choose appropriate interventions on a case-specific basis.



LSU Health School of Dentistry is celebrating its Golden Anniversary this year!

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Friday, August 24, 2018

Alumni Day & Reunions

LSU School of Dentistry, New Orleans

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Speaker details and registration information coming soon*



A special complimentary celebration for reunion years (graduation years ending "3" or "8") will follow Alumni Day CE. Attendance at Alumni Day is not required to attend your reunion celebration. All Alumni Day attendees are invited as well.

The LSU Health School of Dentistry Receives Honors at ADEA

The American Dental Education Association (ADEA) annual conference held in March in Orlando produced a number of awards for the school and members of the LSUSD community. In recognition of the innovative programs in Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice, the school was presented the Gies Award for Vision by an Academic Dental Institution. The Gies Awards honor individuals and organizations that exemplify the highest standards in oral health and dental education, research and leadership. This is the second time

LSUSD has received a Gies Award.

Other LSUSD achievers were recognized at ADEA. Janice Townsend, DDS, MS, professor and chair of pediatric dentistry, received the ADEA/Colgate-Palmolive Co. Excellence in Teaching Award; Jane M. Walsh, RDH, JD, associate professor and director of the dental hygiene program, was awarded the ADEA/Sunstar Americas, Inc./Harry W. Bruce, Jr. Legislative Fellowship; Adriana Wilson, DDS, MSD, clinical assistant professor of prosthodontics, received the ADEA/AAL Faculty

of Color Tuition Scholarship for Professional Development: ADEA/AAL Compass Program for Academic Advancement; and Bailey Wilson, a student in the Dental Hygiene Program, was awarded the ADEA/Sigma Phi Alpha Linda DeVore Scholarship.

Also notable is the recent election of Dean Henry A. Gremillion, DDS, MAGD, to the position of Chair-Elect of the ADEA Board of Directors for 2018-2019. The previous title of ADEA President was changed in 2013 to Chair of the Board of Directors.



Drs. Henry Gremillion and Sandra Andrieu display the 2018 ADEA Gies Award for Vision, posing with Dr. Leo Rouse, ADEA Scholar in Residence.

LSU School of Dentistry Opens New Building

On May 24, the Advanced Clinical Care and Research Building was officially opened. The event was marked by two receptions, speeches, and tours of the facility.

The \$31 million, 65,000-square-foot building houses the 22-chair Faculty Dental Practice for care in general dentistry and specialties, the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery clinic, an outpatient surgical center, and the Clinical Research facility. The new building offers the latest equipment for basic science research as well as clinical research and clinical trials.

Funded by FEMA to replace

areas damaged during Hurricane Katrina, the new building raises critical infrastructure supporting functions of all buildings on the campus above the 100-year flood plain.

Dr. Larry Hollier, Chancellor of LSU Health New Orleans, said, "the new facility increases our capacity to provide excellent dental care to patients and expands our clinical research and trials that offer patients the very latest treatment advances. Patients will also benefit from closer collaboration and easier consultation among multiple dental specialists working side by side."

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(l-r): Dr. Kristopher Rappold, alumnus and President of the New Orleans Dental Association, Jeffrey Kerst, fourth-year dental student, Dr. Henry Gremillion, Dean of LSU Health School of Dentistry, Dr. Kristi Soileau, alumnus and member of the LSU Health Foundation Board of Directors, and Dr. Larry Hollier, Chancellor of LSU Health.



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Louisiana Dental Center, a well-established and fast-growing group dental practice, is seeking an Oral Surgeon for its Denham Springs and Gonzales locations and a Periodontist for its Denham Springs and Zachary locations.

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SATURDAY GENERAL DENTISTS

Louisiana Dental Center is seeking General Dentists to work Saturdays at its locations in the Greater New Orleans area. If you're interested in joining our team, please contact Terry Ernst at 985/893-2240 or e-mail CV to ternst@ladentalcenter.com.

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Every effort has been made to present this course listing as accurately as possible from information available on June 19, 2018.
Notice of changes will be announced on the website. Check for the most up-to-date list of courses here: www.LSUHealthNewOrleansCDE.org.

Course Date(s) & City	Course Name, Speaker(s) & Location	For	Fees	Hours*
July 13-14, 2018 New Orleans 	Single-Tooth Implant Surgery & Restoration. • 2 days of lectures and "hands-on" workshops • Learn how to add implant dentistry to your practice. Presented by John M. Barksdale, DDS and Sean Owens, DDS – at LSU School of Dentistry	Dentist	\$995	16 C, (8L/8P)
July 20-21, 2018 New Orleans 	Moderate Sedation Review Course (Adult Patients Only) – Covers Oral Sedation & IV Sedation. Presented by Benjamin R. Record, DDS and Alfredo R. Arribas, DDS, MS – at LSU School of Dentistry	Assistant	\$650	24 C, (12L/12P)
Aug. 10-12, 2018 New Orleans 	Expanded Duty Dental Assistant (EDDA) – New Orleans. Presented by Nancy Weiss, RDH, CDA, EFDA, Dana Williams, CDA, EDDA , and Brianne Mannino, CDA, EDDA – at LSU School of Dentistry	Assistant	\$650	24 C, (12L/12P)
Aug. 11, 2018 New Orleans	Digital and Conventional Radiology (RAD). Presented by Dale Brooks Hernandez, LRT and Anne Klasser, EDDA – at LSU School of Dentistry	Assistant	\$300	7 C, (3.5L/3.5P)
Aug. 16-17, 2018 New Orleans 	How to Fabricate a New Generation of Hybrid Dentures for Edentulous Patients. Presented by Marco Brindis, DDS with Julio Zavala, MCDT – at LSU School of Dentistry ❖Dentists: if you are bringing your assistant, please call (504) 941-8193 to register; do not register online.	Dentist Dental Assistant	\$1,995 ❖ FREE ♦	10 C, (6L/4P)
Aug. 23, 2018 New Orleans	Alumni Day 2018 at LSU School of Dentistry. Keynote Speaker: Parag R. Kachalia, DDS – at LSU School of Dentistry	Dentist Hygienist Assistant	\$269 ■ \$169 ■ \$109 ■	6 C, L
Sept. 14, 2018 New Orleans	Dentistry for the Pediatric Patient: The 12th Annual Clifton O. Dummett Memorial Lecture (Friday Only). Presented by Lance Kisby, DMD, FASDC, FAAPD, MAGD – at LSU School of Dentistry	Dentist Hygienist, Assistant, or Lab Tech	\$399 ■ \$145 ■	7 C, L
Sept. 14, 2018 	– or take by Video Conference if you live 150 miles or more outside of New Orleans – Streaming LIVE from LSU School of Dentistry in New Orleans to your home or office desktop, or laptop. This course is limited attendance. REGISTER EARLY! Please call (504) 941-8193 to register.			
Sept. 14-15, 2018 New Orleans	Dentistry for the Pediatric Patient: The 12th Annual Clifton O. Dummett Memorial Lecture and Workshop (Friday Lecture and Saturday Participation Workshop). Presented by Lance Kisby, DMD, FASDC, FAAPD, MAGD – at LSU School of Dentistry	Dentist Hygienist, Assistant, or Lab Tech	\$835 ■ \$285 ■	11 C (7L/4P)
Sept. 14-15, 2018  More September CE courses listed online...	– or take by Video Conference if you live 150 miles or more outside of New Orleans – Streaming LIVE from LSU School of Dentistry in New Orleans to your home or office desktop, or laptop. This course is limited attendance. REGISTER EARLY! Please call (504) 941-8193 to register.			

*Hours C=Clinical NC=Non-Clinical L=Lecture P=Participation

-  A "Hands-On" course.
♦ Restorative dental assistant may attend the course at no additional charge and may attend the Friday lectures and observe the Saturday "hands-on" workshop. Restorative Dentists: if you are bringing your assistant, please call (504) 941-8193 to register; do not register online.
■ This is the regular tuition. Register 4 weeks before and SAVE – see website for Early Bird savings and deadlines.