

# WELCOME, MESSAGING & WSDA CONTACTS

**Welcome and thank you for attending WSDA Dental Action Day!** We appreciate you taking time from your busy schedule to join us in Olympia as we advocate together for the Association's legislative priorities. We are stronger together — *one profession, one voice!*

WSDA's leadership and advocacy teams have spent many months preparing for the 2026 Legislative Session and would like to share the following information **to help maximize the impact of your meetings with legislators** and the impactful messages you can share in support of our legislation.

## MESSAGING

Throughout our pre-session discussions with legislators and other elected officials, **WSDA experienced encouraging success in garnering interest and support for our legislation by using specific messaging points.**

Your attendee materials reflect these and other tested messages. **We encourage attendees to review the materials and to reinforce WSDA's messaging when meeting with legislators.**

### High-Level Preventive Care Messaging

- Safeguarding preventive care improves Washingtonians' oral health and advances oral health equity.
- Preventive care helps stop oral health issues from escalating, but dental insurers currently can deny this care based on a patient's age or frequency of visits.
- WSDA's bill counteracts federal threats to proven public health practices.

### High-Level Oral Health Workforce Messaging

- The dental workforce shortage affects patients' ability to get necessary care across the state.
- Delays in preventive care increase the risk of more serious problems.
- Washington must safeguard against federal overreach by strengthening access to oral health care.

Please reach out to WSDA contacts below with questions regarding specific issues or messaging.

*Please note that the materials provided for Dental Action Day are intended for attendee reference and not as leave-behind materials for legislators. **Additionally, legislators have requested no physical leave-behind materials and have already received electronic copies of policy one-pagers.***

---

## WSDA CONTACTS FOR QUESTIONS, FOLLOW-UP

If you have any questions or if a legislator requests a follow-up on an issue, please contact:

**Kevin Schilling**  
**WSDA Advocacy Director**  
(206) 948-0381  
kevin@wsda.org  
*On-Site at Dental Action Day*

**Chester Baldwin**  
**WSDA Contract Lobbyist**  
(360) 688-4588  
chet@lobbywa.com  
*On-Site at Dental Action Day*

**Mark Hanscom**  
**WSDA Advocacy Coordinator**  
(206) 973-5233  
markh@wsda.org  
*On-Site at Dental Action Day*