

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