



2021-22 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Keith A. Mays, Ph.D., D.D.S., M.S.
Chair of the Board

Nader A. Nadershahi, D.D.S., M.B.A., Ed.D.
Chair-elect of the Board

Ryan Quock, D.D.S.
Immediate Past Chair of the Board

James R. Lott, D.M.D.
Board Director for Faculties

Gregory M. Ness, D.D.S.
Board Director for
Advanced Education Programs

Laura Romito, D.D.S., M.S., M.B.A.
Board Director for Sections

Amy Coplen, RDH, M.S.
Board Director for Allied
Dental Program Directors

Steven W. Friedrichsen, D.D.S.
Board Director for Deans

Manavi Nagai, M.S.
Board Director for Students,
Residents and Fellows

Lawrence Schnuck
Board Director for the
Corporate Council

Karen P. West, D.M.D., M.P.H.
President and CEO

The mission of ADEA is to lead
and support the health professions
community in preparing future-ready
oral health professionals.

655 K Street, NW
Suite 800
Washington, DC 20001
Phone: 202.289.7201
Fax: 202.289.7204
adea.org

August 27, 2021

The Honorable Susan Collins
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

IDENTICAL LETTER SENT TO SENATOR MARK KELLY

Dear Senator Collins:

On behalf of the American Dental Education Association's (ADEA) member dental education institutions and allied dental education programs, I am writing to again thank you for introducing the Student Assisted Vaccination Effort (SAVE) Act. This Act would permanently authorize skilled dental, medical, nursing, pharmacy, veterinary and other health professions students to administer COVID-19 vaccines with appropriate supervision. This legislation takes an important step to recognize and empower health professions students who have been educated about and trained to administer injections, including intraoral injections, and are a vital resource during public health emergencies.

ADEA has one concern. The bill as introduced would exclude dental hygiene and dental therapy students from being eligible to use their education and training to assist in a national health emergency because they are not enumerated in subsection (B) of Section 2 of S. 2114. We ask that you consider adding them to the list. For your convenience, attached is a version of how that language might read with that change.

Thank you for considering this request and I look forward to working with you on this and other matters involving oral health.

Sincerely,

Karen P. West, D.M.D., M.P.H.
President and CEO

S. 2114

To expand the definition of qualified persons for purposes of the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act to include health professional students.

* * * * *

Sec. 2. Qualified Persons

* * * * *

(B) a medical, nursing, pharmacy, pharmacy intern, midwife, paramedic, advanced or intermediate emergency medical technician, physician assistant, respiratory therapy, dental, podiatry, optometry, ***dental hygiene, dental therapy*** or veterinary student with—

- (i) appropriate training in administering vaccines, as determined by the student's school or training program; and
- (ii) supervision by an individual described in subparagraph (A); or

* * * * *