

## 2023–24 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ana N. López-Fuentes, D.M.D., M.P.H.  
Chair of the Board

Susan H. Kass, M.Ed., Ed.D., RDH  
Chair-elect of the Board

Nader A. Nadershahi, D.D.S., M.B.A., Ed.D.  
Immediate Past Chair of the Board

Mert N. Aksu, D.D.S., J.D.  
Board Director for Deans

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

Lawrence Schnuck  
Board Director for the Corporate Council

Michael Larry Bates, D.D.S.  
Board Director for Faculties

Russ Bergman, D.M.D.  
Board Director for  
Advanced Education Programs

Dharini van der Hoeven, M.Sc., Ph.D.  
Board Director for Sections

Matthew Wright  
Board Director for Students,  
Residents and Fellows

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

February 14, 2025

Representative Rob Nosse  
Chair, House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care  
900 Court St NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Chair Nosse and members of the House Committee on Behavioral Health  
and Health Care:

On behalf of the American Dental Education Association (ADEA), I write to  
express our support for House Bill 2676, the Dentist and Dental Hygienist  
Compact.

Much like existing licensure compacts for nurses, physical therapists,  
physicians, and psychologists, the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact will  
increase licensure portability for oral health practitioners while allowing  
member state regulatory boards to better protect consumers through  
enhanced sharing of licensure information. Existing interstate occupational  
licensure compacts have been successful in reducing barriers for practitioners  
who wish to provide services in other states.

This compact, like the physical therapy licensure compact, which Oregon is a  
party, was developed in conjunction with the Council of State Governments,  
and with other key stakeholders including the Department of Defense (DoD),  
American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA), the American Dental  
Education Association (ADEA), and many others. Representatives from nine  
different state boards of dentistry were included at every stage of the drafting  
and review process. This is a compact that the oral health community can, and  
does, stand proudly behind.

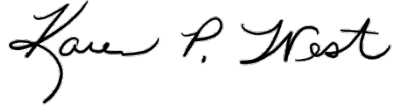
We recognize that the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact will benefit  
consumers, licensure boards and the dentistry profession by:

- Enhancing mobility for practitioners who meet uniform licensure requirements,
- Increasing access to care for patients,
- Ensuring continuity of care when patients or practitioners relocate or travel to other states,
- Allowing military personnel and spouses to more easily maintain their licenses when relocating,
- Preserving and strengthening the current system of state licensure,
- Reducing burdens associated with the recruitment of dental and dental hygiene faculty when it is necessary to have a license to teach in school clinics,
- Minimizing financial costs for dentists and dental hygienists and
- Allowing for the acceptance of more than one pathway to licensure that relies on methods of measuring clinical skills that protect public safety.

Importantly, the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact preserves each member state's authority to regulate the dental health profession. Oral health practitioners using the compact must abide by the laws and rules of the state in which they are practicing and adhere to that state's scope of practice.

With these benefits in mind, ADEA supports the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen P. West". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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