

March 1, 2008

The Honorable <**first and last name**>
United States <**House of Representatives or Senate**>
Washington, DC <**20515 if House, 20510 if Senate**>

Dear <**Congressman or Senator_last name**>:

As a member of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS), I will be participating in our association's 8th annual Day on the Hill program and will be in Washington, D.C. for meetings with my state's delegation this April.

I would like to request an appointment for myself <**and a couple of my colleagues**> to meet with you or your healthcare aide to discuss some significant policy issues affecting how oral and maxillofacial surgeons in your district are able to provide care to our patients—and your constituents. If possible, I would like to request a meeting between 9:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Wednesday, April 16. However, I will make every effort to meet at your convenience that day.

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery is a unique dental specialty encompassed by individual issues that impact our ability to provide quality care. AAOMS represents approximately 8,000 oral and maxillofacial surgeons nationwide. As informed citizens and surgeons in the forefront of the specialty, AAOMS members understand the importance of interaction with our elected leaders in the U.S. Congress. We encourage Members of Congress to ensure oral healthcare services are given the utmost consideration in legislative proposals and actions when addressing health and wellness issues. Specifically, we are seeking support for the 'Children's Access to Reconstructive Evaluation & Surgery (CARES) Act of 2007' (HR 1655/S 1588), that will protect and promote access to treatment for childhood deformities and craniofacial abnormalities (e.g., Cleft lip and palate); as well as recently introduced legislation in the House, the 'Medicare Oral Health Rehabilitative Enhancement Act of 2008 (HR 5590), that would allow OMSs the ability to directly refer patients to physical therapy.

Thank you, <**Congressman/Congresswoman/Senator_Last name**>, for your consideration of this request. I will follow up with your scheduler in a few days to confirm an appointment. If your office would prefer to contact me sooner, I can be reached at <**your area code and phone number/ e-mail address**>.

I look forward to the opportunity to meet with you and express our views about the state of our healthcare system.

Sincerely,

<**your name**>