



American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons

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President

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January 19, 2017

The Honorable Erik Paulsen
U.S. House of Representatives
127 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Paulsen:

On behalf of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS), the professional association that represents more than 9,000 oral and maxillofacial surgeons in the United States, I commend your re-introduction of the "Protect Medical Innovation Act" (H.R. 184), which would permanently repeal the 2.3% excise tax imposed on medical devices at the point of sale as provided for in the Affordable Care Act. A large number of healthcare providers, including oral and maxillofacial surgeons, utilize many of the devices and supplies subject to this tax on a daily basis.

While we were pleased that a two-year moratorium was enacted in 2015, it will expire on Dec. 31, 2017 making your legislation more necessary than ever. Although the medical device tax was intended to raise revenue from the medical device industry to help pay for the health reform law's cost of expanding access to care, health care providers and their patients bear the brunt of this provision's financial impact as the medical device manufacturers pass the additional 2.3% on to the purchasing healthcare provider in the form of increased prices.

Without passage of the "Protect Medical Innovation Act," patient care and innovation will suffer while the cost of healthcare increases. Therefore, the AAOMS wholly endorses this measure and stands ready to help you and your staff move this essential bill through the legislative process. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jeanne Tuerk at the AAOMS Governmental Affairs Department at 800/822-6637 ext. 4321 or jtuerk@aaoms.org.

Sincerely,

Douglas W. Fain, DDS, MD, FACS
President