

April 23, 2019

The Honorable Pat Toomey
United States Senate
248 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
United States Senate
425 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Jackie Walorski
U.S. House of Representatives
419 Cannon House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Ron Kind
U.S. House of Representatives
1502 Longworth House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Richard Hudson
U.S. House of Representatives
2112 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Scott Peters
U.S. House of Representatives
2338 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

Dear Senators Toomey and Klobuchar and Representatives Kind, Walorksi, Hudson, and Peters:

On behalf of the members of our collective organizations, we would like to express our support for S. 692/H.R. 2207, the *Protect Medical Innovation Act of 2019*. This bill would permanently repeal the 2.3 percent excise tax on medical devices, which is set to take effect at the end of 2019.

As dentists, we are deeply concerned about the adverse impact the medical device tax paid by manufacturers, importers, and producers of certain dental devices will have on patient care, innovation, and cost.

Manufacturers subject to the tax would seem to have no choice but to offset these new costs by increasing the prices of the materials, supplies, and equipment sold to dental practices. In addition to the excise tax itself, manufacturers must offset the costs of administering and paying the tax, which would likely result in higher fees for our patients.

As you are aware, this tax was established by the Affordable Care Act, a law designed to decrease overall healthcare costs and make affordable treatment more readily available to those currently left out of the system. Unfortunately, this tax has resulted in the opposite effect. Now is the time when we should be doing all that we can to expand access to critical health services, such as oral care, not adding an extra barrier in the form of an arbitrary tax that unnecessarily drives up costs.

We stand ready to work with you and your staff to generate support for S. 692/H.R. 2207 to repeal this harmful tax. Please contact Pat O'Connor at (703) 351-6222 or patoconnor@kentoconnor.com with any questions.

Thank you again for your ongoing efforts regarding this issue.

Sincerely,

Academy of General Dentistry
American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology
American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology
American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
American Association of Endodontists
American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons
American Association of Orthodontists
American Association of Women Dentists
American College of Prosthodontists
American Dental Association
American Dental Education Association
American Student Dental Association
Hispanic Dental Association
National Dental Association