



**American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons**

Miro A. Pavelka, DDS, MSD  
*President*

Robert C. Rinaldi, PhD, CAE  
*Executive Director*

June 6, 2013

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 introduction of the "Protect Medical Innovation Act" (H.R. 523), which would 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.

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 are expected to 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. This phenomenon is already observable in the marketplace.

If the "Protect Medical Innovation Act" does not become law, patient care and innovation will suffer while the cost of healthcare will increase. Therefore, the AAOMS wholly endorses this measure and stands ready to help you and your staff move this essential bill through the legislative process. Please contact Mr. Adam Brenman of the AAOMS Governmental Affairs Department at 847/678-6200 or [abrenman@aaoms.org](mailto:abrenman@aaoms.org) for questions or additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Miro A. Pavelka, DDS, MSD". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Miro A. Pavelka, DDS, MSD  
President