



American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons

William J. Nelson, DDS
President

Robert C. Rinaldi, PhD, CAE
Executive Director

June 4, 2015

The Honorable Orrin Hatch
US Senate
104 Hart Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Hatch:

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, thank you for introducing the “Medical Device Access and Innovation Protection Act” (S 149), which would repeal the Affordable Care Act’s 2.3% excise tax on medical devices. 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 healthcare reform law’s cost of expanding access to care, healthcare providers and their patients bear the brunt of the tax’s financial impact as medical device manufacturers pass the additional 2.3% cost of their devices on to purchasing healthcare providers in the form of increased prices. This phenomenon has been regularly observed in the marketplace since 2013.

If the “Medical Device Access and Innovation Protection Act” does not become law, patient care and innovation will continue to suffer while the cost of healthcare increases. Therefore, the AAOMS endorses this important measure and we are pleased to advocate in support of its enactment. If we can be of any assistance to you or your staff in moving S 149 through the legislative process, please contact Mr. Adam Brenman of the AAOMS Governmental Affairs Department at 847/678-6200 or abrenman@aaoms.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W. Nelson DDS". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

William J. Nelson, DDS
President