

June 6, 2014

The Honorable Patrick Murphy  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1517 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Murphy:

The American Dental Association (ADA) is writing to thank you for introducing H.R. 4646, the Regulatory Improvement Act of 2014. This bipartisan legislation would establish an independent advisory committee to evaluate and provide recommendations concerning certain federal regulations. The ADA supports this bill because it would reduce compliance costs, while protecting public health and safety.

The ADA believes the advisory committee's role could be especially important for small businesses, which struggle to comply with the vast number of federal regulations. For example, as small business owners dentists must follow Occupational Safety and Health Administration workplace safety rules while as health care providers they are also subject to Department of Health and Human Services regulations. Small businesses are vital to the nation's economy. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, these companies employ over half of all private sector employees and are responsible for 64 percent of net new jobs over the past 15 years, yet they are disproportionately affected by regulatory burdens. On average, private dental practices have seven employees<sup>1</sup> and most are led by a single dentist as the head of the dental team.<sup>2</sup>

To support the continued vitality of small businesses in America it is important that regulations are carefully targeted to only address health and safety issues that need such oversight and that they also take into consideration the limited resources of small businesses to implement the regulation. The ADA believes H.R. 4646 helps to ensure those benchmarks are met.

Please contact Mr. Thomas Dawson, senior congressional lobbyist, at [dawsont@ada.org](mailto:dawsont@ada.org) or (202) 898-2402 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Charles H. Norman, D.D.S.  
President  
American Dental Association

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<sup>1</sup> On average, 7.2 full time equivalent positions. ADA Health Policy Institute, 2012 Results from the Survey of Dental Practice, unpublished data.

<sup>2</sup> 57.5 percent of dentists in private practice are solo practitioners (the only dentist in the private practice). ADA Health Policy Institute, 2012 Distribution of Dentists survey, unpublished data.