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Assembly Passes EFDA Legislation

Contact: Rep. Jon Plumer

(608) 266-3404

MADISON, WI – The Wisconsin State Assembly passed legislation on Thursday afternoon to expand access to dental care in Wisconsin. Senate Bill 392, authored by Rep. Jon Plumer (R-Lodi) and Sen. Mary Felzkowski (R-Irma), will create the position of and certify expanded function dental auxiliaries in Wisconsin.

"The passage of this bill will fundamentally change dental care in Wisconsin," said Rep. Plumer. "Urban and rural areas of the state will see expanded access and higher quality of care at their dental offices."

Senate Bill 392 adds another member to dental care teams - expanded function dental auxiliaries (EFDAs). EFDAs would join dental assistants and dental hygienists as those authorized to practice under dentists in this state. They would be certified to apply sealants and fluorides, make impressions, assist dentists with restorations, and other activities detailed in the legislation. The skill set and scope of an EFDA allows them to handle standard dental visits that do not require higher levels of training possessed by the dentists and hygienists. The legislation also sets a minimum number of hours for training and requires them to practice under the supervision of a dentist. More than twenty other states and the military already utilize EFDAs as members of dental care teams.

The bill will now go back to senate for concurrence before it goes to the governor for his signature.

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