

## **ILLINOIS**

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### Recent/Upcoming Meetings:

April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022: Dr. **Drew Ferris** on aligner therapy.

### Illinois updates:

- Illinois' governor is lifting mask mandates as of March 1, except in schools. There is ongoing litigation with school districts fighting for lifting the mandates in the schools.
- Illinois State Dental Society (ISDS) is pursuing legislation in the following areas:
  - SB3067/HB4349 which relates to mandatory insurance coverage for all aspects of treatment of cranio-facial anomalies. This legislation is parallel to the Ensuring Lasting Smiles Act that is currently being pursued by the ADA in Congress. ISDS feels that having legislation at the state level will make it more likely that kids with cranio-facial anomalies will receive all care necessary to correct the deformity, including surgical, orthodontic, and restorative dentistry.
  - SB3168/HB4501 which will allow the utilization of teledentistry within a dental office and for dental auxiliaries to perform duties on patients under teledentistry as they are allowed to do under general supervision. This will not expand functions of assistants and hygienists, but rather make teledentistry to be equivalent to general supervision.

### ADA/AO COHC updates:

- The ADA Code Maintenance Committee is meeting March 10-11 in Chicago at ADA headquarters to discuss and vote on adopting revisions to the CDT. AAO has submitted code change requests. The code changes center on the use of 3D imaging in dental/orthodontic treatments. Also proposed is a streamlining of the codes for retainer replacement and retainer repair.
- The ADA is embarking on a plan for a full revision of the CDT that could include a change in the structure of the codes and how claims will be submitted. Currently, the task force, which I am chairing, is discussing what

the structure of the revised CDT will be and having town hall listening sessions to gather opinions from all specialties and other interested stakeholders. I would be happy to explain this further during our meeting.

I am excited to be taking over from **Spencer Pope** as the Illinois Director to MSO and I look forward to working with everyone in the coming years. Also, I will be installed as the 8<sup>th</sup> District Trustee to the ADA for Illinois this fall. Since I keep involved with both the ADA and the ISDS, I am happy to be a bridge between our specialty and the ADA/ISDS.

**Randall Markarian**

Swansea, Illinois