

## Member Newsletter



## Coalition News

## Budget Process Moves Ahead with Tax Reforms

### Lieutenant Governor Casts Tie-Breaking Vote on HB 4361

This week was a newsworthy one here at the Capitol. The Senate, with a necessary tie-breaking vote by Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley, passed House Bill 4361, the legislation that makes a number of reforms to Michigan's business and income taxes.

The bill contained a number of provisions, with the business and pension tax receiving the most attention. The bill passed by the Senate contained \$1 billion in tax relief for small businesses by repealing the Michigan Business Tax and replacing it with a six percent income tax on C-corporations. The other major component, which will raise \$300 million in revenue, was the changes to the income tax exemptions on certain types of retirement and pension income. Under current law, only private pensions and unmatched income on 401(k) plans over \$45,120 for an individual or \$90,240 for a couple are taxed. For a detailed look at these changes, click on [Pension Chart](#), which was developed by Senator Bruce Caswell.

This Monday, the Consensus Revenue Estimating conference will be held. It is predicted that for FY 2012 there will be a surplus of \$500-\$600 million. With these estimates, Coalition staff expects House and Senate leadership to set revenue targets with conference committees to meet soon after. Will the Legislature have a budget in place by Governor Snyder proposed May 31st deadline? The Coalition will continue to keep you updated.

## 2011 Michigan Oral Health Conference, June 9-10

### Registration Deadline Fast Approaching

The Michigan Oral Health Coalition exists to improve the oral health of Michigan residents through partnerships with providers, educators, legislators, policymakers and the community. Plan now to join us for the 2011 state conference June 9-10 in Lansing. The Coalition is excited to announce Kurt Metzger, Data Driven Detroit, Olga Dazzo, new director of the Michigan Department of Community Health and Beverly Isman, consultant as our featured speakers.

2011 MICHIGAN ORAL  
HEALTH CONFERENCE



May 13, 2011

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## Quick Links

[Visit Our Website](#)  
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## Upcoming Events

May 20, 2011  
 12 to 1 p.m.  
 Xylitol as a

The conference will provide attendees with thought-provoking workshops to choose from as well as an exciting group of exhibitors to visit. Dental CEUs will be made available to attendees during the two-day conference. As always there will be many great opportunities to network. [See Registration Booklet!](#)

## Annual Business Meeting Scheduled

### Join Us June 9 During the 2011 Conference

This spring, the Governance and Nominating Committee, which included board chair Chris Shea and past board chairs Rick Lantz, Robert Dennison, DMD and Tom Kocheiser, CAE met to discuss prospective board member candidates and future initiatives. The 2011 Business Meeting is scheduled June 9 (3:45 to 4:30 p.m.) at the Lexington Lansing Hotel located at 925 S. Creyts Road in Lansing. Members in good standing will be able to vote.

## New Appointment for Coalition Member

### Woosung Sohn, DDS, PhD, DrPH Moves to Boston University

Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine has announced the appointment of Woosung Sohn, DDS, PhD, DrPH, as the Director of the Division of Dental Public Health and as Program Director of the School's ADA-accredited Advanced Education Program in Dental Public Health. He is presently an Associate Professor at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry and the Director of the Dental Public Health Program, Department of Epidemiology, University of Michigan School of Public Health. Dr. Sohn is expected to join the Boston University faculty, as Associate Professor of Health Policy and Health Services Research, on Aug. 1. The Coalition congratulates member Dr. Sohn on his new position.

## Coalition Education Calendar

### Opportunities to Learn, Network and Earn CEs

The Michigan Oral Health Coalition offers monthly opportunities for members to learn, network and earn CEs. Mark your calendar for our next course scheduled May 20 from 12 to 1 p.m. via webinar. Participate from the comfort of your office or gather your team in a conference room--no travel required!

### Upcoming Education Events

Xylitol as a Bodyguard for Improved Health  
May 20, 12 to 1 p.m.  
Webinar | [Register Now](#)

2011 Annual Conference  
June 9-10  
Lexington Hotel, Lansing

Treating Patients with Parkinson's Disease  
June 24, 12 to 1 p.m.  
Webinar | [Register Now](#)

Do you have an idea for an upcoming course or an interest in teaching? Would your organization like to collaborate with us, then contact Karlene Ketola, executive director at 517.827.0466.

Bodyguard for  
Improved Health  
Webinar

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Lansing

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12 to 1 p.m.  
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### Board of Directors

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Michigan*

## 2011 Check-Up on Oral Health: A County Profile Useful Tool in Advocacy and Grantwriting

Oral health is essential to overall health and quality of life. Left untreated, dental diseases can result in infection and severe pain, an inability to perform daily activities, and in very rare cases, death. In 2008, more than 1,000 Michigan residents were hospitalized due to emergency conditions related to the teeth and jaw—all of these considered avoidable hospitalizations.



The "2011 Michigan Check-Up on Oral Health: A Michigan County Profile" outlines key economic and oral health indicators for each Michigan county. The [Report](#) covers the demographics of each county's population, dental providers and the dramatic need of the uninsured and Medicaid enrollees. To order a book for \$28, click [here](#).

### Staff

**Karlene Ketola**  
**Executive Director**  
*Michigan Oral  
Health Coalition*

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### State News

## Encouraging College, Oral Health Careers U of M Program Brings Dental Faculty and High School Students Together

"We're planting seeds early, when they are freshmen and sophomores in high school, to get students thinking that going to college is something they can do, that it's not an impossible dream," said Dr. Marita Inglehart, associate professor of dentistry, as she talked about her visits to several Michigan high schools as part of a new University of Michigan program that encourages adolescents to consider and ultimately pursue higher education. If early responses are any indication, some students have expressed a desire to become oral health professionals.

The program, Wolverine Express, features U of M faculty, staff and students traveling to Saginaw, Jackson, Pontiac, Battle Creek, Benton Harbor, Muskegon, and Grand Rapids who talk to students from disadvantaged backgrounds about the benefits of higher education. Launched last fall by U of M's Center for Educational Outreach, participants in Wolverine Express work with high school principals, counselors, and teachers encouraging them to emphasize to students what they need to do in high school to prepare for college. For more information, see [Encouraging College](#).

## MDA Foundation Awards Mitus Scholarship Dental Hygiene Scholarship Recipients from U of M and UDM

Each year the Michigan Dental Association Foundation awards student scholarships to dental, dental hygiene and dental assisting students through its Robert D. Mitus Scholarship Fund. Since the scholarships began in 1999, approximately 99 scholarships have been given, for a total of \$109,000 in gifts. The Michigan Dental Association Foundation Robert D. Mitus Scholarship Dental Hygiene recipients for the academic year 2010-2011 are Staci Carroll, of the University of Detroit Mercy, and Patricia Walch, of the University of Michigan. Congratulations to both!

## **National News**

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### **Are You Eligible for a \$170,000 NHSC Award?**

#### **Dentists and Hygienists Are Encouraged to Apply**

Did you know that primary care providers who join the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) can receive up to \$170,000 in loan repayment for completing a five-year service commitment? The program starts with an initial award of up to \$60,000 for two years of full-time service. With continued service beyond five years, clinicians may be able to pay off all their student loans. Administrators with the NHSC are encouraging more dentists and dental hygienists to apply. The current application cycle for loan repayment closes on May 26. For more information, see [NHSC](#).

### **National Coalition Launches "text4baby"**

#### **Free Health Info by Text Messages for New, Expectant Moms**

Each year in the US, more than 500,000 babies are born prematurely and an estimated 28,000 children die before their first birthday. In response, the National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition has launched text4baby, a free mobile information service that provides pregnant women and new moms with information to help them care for their health and give their babies the best possible start in life. Service is also available in Spanish. For more information, visit [www.text4baby.org](http://www.text4baby.org).

### **CDC's Oral Health Division Releases Strategic Plan**

#### **Now Available On-line**

CDC's Division of Oral Health has released its Strategic Plan for 2011-2014. The Plan was informed by a Strategic Priorities Meeting held last year at the National Oral Health Conference. At that meeting, suggestions were gathered from representatives of 25 national partner organizations on important issues, opportunities, and driving forces relevant to the future of the nation's oral health. The Plan describes the mission, role, core functions, and public health priorities of CDC's oral health program, as well as 8 goals and associated strategic priorities focused on improving the oral health of the nation. The Plan is available on CDC's Oral Health Resources Web site at <http://www.cdc.gov/OralHealth/stratplan/index.htm>.

### **New Arkansas Law Requires Fluoridation**

#### **In Water Systems Serving more than 5,000**

The Arkansas Governor Mike Beebe signed a community water fluoridation bill into law March 4, which will bring its proven health benefits to more than 148,000 Arkansas residents. The law expands community water fluoridation to all Arkansas communities with at least 5,000 residents. The Delta Dental Foundation in Arkansas has committed to funding the equipment/capital costs that communities would otherwise incur to begin fluoridating.

The Michigan Oral Health Coalition's mission is to improve oral health in Michigan by focusing on prevention, health promotion, oral health data, access and the link between oral health and overall health.

#### ***Michigan Oral Health Coalition***

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