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Subject: Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update

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ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

Weekly Wednesday Update

*Our Mission:
To improve oral health
in Kansas through
advocacy,
public awareness
and education.*

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Dental Champions Corner

HB 2372 Killed in Committee



On February 24, the House Health and Human Services Committee overwhelmingly voted to table HB 2372. This vote effectively kills this anti-water fluoridation bill for the year in the House. The bill would have required local water departments that fluoridate their water to notify customers that water fluoridation lowers IQs in children.

Oral Health Kansas and many partners worked together to defeat this bill over the last several weeks. Countless calls, emails and visits were made to legislators telling them about the benefits of water fluoridation. Twenty-six organizations provided testimony or statements in opposition to the bill, including a wide range of statewide organizations, public organizations, national advocates and individuals. Thanks in particular go to the five people who testified before the committee:

· Lucynda Raben, DDS



Doreen Eyer, RDH, ECP III, recently completed a one-day course on providing care to individuals with dementia and Alzheimer's. She is preparing to develop dental hygiene services for Comfort Car Homes, group homes for residents with Alzheimer's. To her knowledge, Doreen is the first dental hygienist to complete the course through National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners.



Reader's Survey

How are we doing? What kinds of stories would you like to see in the Weekly Wednesday Update. Take our short, five minute survey [here](#). The survey will close by next Wednesday, March 5.

Traveling Sugary Drink Display

- John Neuberger, DrPH, MPH, MBA, KU School of Medicine & Kansas Public Health Association
- Greg Hill, J.D., Kansas Dental Association
- Brian Smith, E.D., Oral Health Kansas
- Christie Appelhanz, Kansas Action for Children

HB 2372 was introduced in 2013 and originally was scheduled for a hearing in mid-January 2014. That hearing was postponed to early February when it was rescheduled again due to the large winter storm that dumped over 13 inches of snow in Topeka. The outpouring of support for water fluoridation and against the bill continued throughout January and February and is a significant reason the bill was defeated.

Copies of all the testimony provided in opposition to the bill are available on the Fluoride in Kansas website. Please join Oral Health Kansas in thanking the House members who defeated the bill:

Chair: [Rep. Dave Crum](#)
Vice Chair: [Rep. Susan Concannon](#)

Members:

[Rep. Steve Alford](#)
[Rep. Barbara Bollier](#)
[Rep. Marshall Christmann](#)
[Rep. Daniel Hawkins](#)
[Rep. Don Hill](#)
[Rep. Jim Kelly](#)
[Rep. Leslie Osterman](#)
[Rep. John Wilson](#)
[Rep. Kathy Wolfe Moore](#)

ECP III Training Course Offered at UMKC

UMKC School of Dentistry is advertising their training course for Registered dental hygienists interested in applying to the Kansas Dental Board for ECP III certification. This course is offered as an on-line course and will conclude with a practical lab component and competency exam held on-site at the dental school. The course will cover the content specified for the ECP III certification. Upon completion of the course, the student must apply separately to the Kansas Dental Board for the ECP III certification. ECP



Reserve our traveling Sugary Drink Display for your business or event! Displays are available from March onward and reservations are made for one month at a time. Postage is covered by Oral Health Kansas.

[E-mail Caroline here](#) if you are interested.

I or II certification is not required to be eligible for this course however; hygienists with limited public health background may be interested in the "Safety Net" course which UMKC also offers online for hygienists interested in ECP I and II certification.

Registration is now open for the course and will remain open until March 14, 2014. The course will be at capacity when 20 participants are registered. The online portion of the course will be opened for participants on February 17, 2014 and a practical lab component and competency exam will be held at UMKC School of Dentistry in May 31, 2014.

If interested in participating or if you have more questions, [contact Karen Wilson here](#).

Medicaid Expansion Advocacy



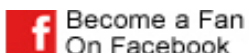
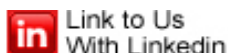
Join advocates on March 18 to take a stand for Kansas to Expand Medicaid! The Kansas Medicaid Access Coalition will start at the Topeka Statehouse Rotunda at 9 a.m. The day will begin with speaker presentations

and meeting with your legislators throughout the day to share with them why its important for Medicaid expansion.

Learn more and join the event on [Facebook](#).

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

If you have an idea, story or suggestion for a Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update please contact us at info@oralhealthkansas.org.



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