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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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### Job Opening!

The Bureau of Oral Health is currently accepting applications for a full time Program

## SAVE THE DATE

Make plans to attend the 2012 Oral Health Kansas Annual Conference September 13-14, 2012 at the [Hotel at Old Town](#) in Wichita, KS.

The Conference will feature a special reception with the new Big Mouth exhibit at [Exploration Place](#) sponsored by [Delta Dental of Kansas Foundation](#).



## HR 6026: Tobacco Harm Reduction

This week the Legislature reconvenes for its "Veto Session." During this wrap-up session many issues will be finalized, including the FY 2013 budget and redistricting. One new issue will be reviewed during the Veto Session when the House Federal and State Affairs Committee will hear testimony on April 26 on a resolution about "tobacco harm reduction." [HR 6026](#) would request that the Kansas Department of Health and Environment conduct a study about the relative risk of death and disease from using smokeless tobacco instead of cigarettes.

Consultant II located in Topeka.

Minimum job requirements are one year of program planning, implementation and monitoring experience or one year of clinical dental professional work. College degree is preferred.

For more information about this job opening [CLICK HERE](#) Req number: 171328 to view the job posting and complete the online application process.

If you have any questions please call the Bureau at (785) 296-5116.

## Did You Know???

**Each year, more than 1,700 children nationwide die as a result of child abuse and neglect, which is equivalent to four children every day.**

[\(Delta Dental of Kansas PANDA Program\)](#)

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In 1986 the U.S. Surgeon General issued a statement saying that smokeless tobacco "is not a safe substitute for smoking cigarettes. It can cause cancer." Oral Health Kansas will present testimony on HR 6026 regarding the risk of oral cancer associated with using smokeless tobacco. According to the MD Anderson Cancer center, most people who are diagnosed with oral cancer are tobacco users.

The resolution would ask KDHE to study the subject and determine whether tobacco harm reduction should be included "as one component of a comprehensive tobacco control strategy." If the resolution were enacted, a report would be due to the 2013 Legislature about tobacco harm reduction.


## Dental Crisis for Medicaid's Youngest


On last night's edition of ABC's World News with Diane Sawyer, a special report entitled "Hidden America: Medicaid's Youngest Face Dental Crisis" highlighted the tragic case for more than 16 million children on Medicaid not receiving even basic dental care during 2009. To view the special report [CLICK HERE](#).

In 2009, according to the Pew Center on the States, dentists and emergency rooms said they are treating very young patients with teeth blackened from decay and bacteria and multiple cavities.



If you have an idea, story or suggestion for a Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update please send an email to [jparnell@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:jparnell@oralhealthkansas.org)

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