

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 17, 2021

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WDA APPLAUDS ASSEMBLY'S UNANIMOUS PASSAGE OF DENTAL VACCINE BILL

The Wisconsin Dental Association today released the following statement from WDA President **Dr. Paula Crum**, a Green Bay periodontist, regarding the State Assembly passing Senate Bill 13, which would allow dentists to administer certain vaccines:

"I would like to thank the State Assembly for taking bipartisan action to expeditiously pass Senate Bill 13, which will authorize dentists to administer COVID and influenza vaccines following eight hours of training and education. The Wisconsin Dental Association thanks Sen. Kathy Bernier and Rep. Robert Brooks for their leadership on this important bill, as well as for authoring an amendment reducing the training hours from 12 to eight to more accurately reflect what is seen in other states. This legislation is another positive contribution that the dental profession can make toward effectively combating the COVID-19 pandemic in Wisconsin.

"This bill would make Wisconsin one of a handful of states that allow dentists to administer COVID and influenza vaccines in perpetuity. That means that Wisconsin's 3,500 licensed community dentists would be able to not only strengthen the vaccination efforts our state is now undertaking, but also play an important role in expanding future access for the citizens of Wisconsin.

"This legislation has now passed out of both chambers of the legislature in bipartisan and unanimous fashion. We respectfully ask that Gov. Evers sign this bipartisan legislation into law as quickly as possible."

About the Wisconsin Dental Association

The Wisconsin Dental Association, with 3,100 member dentists and a number of dental hygienists, is the leading voice for dentistry in Wisconsin. WDA members are committed to promoting professional excellence and quality oral health care. Established in 1870, the WDA is headquartered in West Allis and has a legislative office in Madison. The WDA is affiliated with the American Dental Association - the largest and oldest national dental association in the world. For more information, call 414-276-4520, visit <u>WDA.org</u> and find us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u>.