



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
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### **Massachusetts Dental Society to Hold Beacon Hill Day**

The Massachusetts Dental Society (MDS) will be holding its eighth annual Beacon Hill Day on Wednesday, May 5, 2010. Nearly 100 dentists and dental students are expected to participate by traveling to the State House to spend the day discussing oral health issues with their elected officials. Massachusetts Senator Richard T. Moore, Senate Chairman of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing, will offer the keynote address to attendees.

“The Massachusetts Dental Society, which has nearly 5,000 members, has a very close working relationship with the state Legislature to improve access to care and the oral health of every person in the Commonwealth,” says David S. Samuels, DMD, current president of the MDS. “Beacon Hill Day for the MDS has proven to be a great opportunity for both lawmakers and dentists to collaborate and work towards that.”

The Society, which is based in Southborough, will focus its efforts on encouraging the Legislature to restore the adult MassHealth dental benefit. The governor’s new budget recently eliminated all restorative dental treatment for adults covered by MassHealth insurance.

“Eliminating oral health care benefits under MassHealth will cost the state much more money in the long run by forcing thousands of patients to now seek more expensive treatment in emergency rooms,” says John P. Fisher, DDS, who on May 14 is being installed as the next president of the MDS. “The solution to the state’s fiscal crisis should not come at the expense of the Commonwealth’s most vulnerable citizens.”

Beacon Hill Day attendees will be urging legislators to take action on this and other measures that will expand access to quality care.

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The Massachusetts Dental Society (MDS) is a 5,000-member professional association and statewide constituent of the American Dental Association. Established in 1864, the MDS is an organization dedicated to improving the oral health of the public in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and also advancing the professional development of its membership through initiatives in education, advocacy, and promotion of the highest professional standards.