

**Washington Dental Laboratory Legislation – Great Progress & One More Big Push Needed
by Chris Delarm, CDT and Matt Chapman, CDT**

The Washington State Dental Laboratory Association with the support of the Washington State Dental Association is advancing legislation that includes dental laboratory registration, disclosure and continuing education. This historic legislation represents the first real official and statutory recognition of the important role that dental laboratories play and the significant contributions that we as dental laboratory technology professionals make to restorative dentistry.

With support from the WSDA, the diligent efforts of the WSDLA leadership and generous support from WSDLA members, as well as our steadfast sponsors Senator Annette Cleveland and Representative Monica Stonier, our lobbying effort has been able to surmount significant obstacles from the DSOs.

As a result, the dental laboratory legislation (HB 1782) made great progress and nearly passed into law this last legislative session. HB 1782 passed the House by an overwhelming vote of 94-1 and was unanimously voted out of the Senate Health & Long Term Care Committee. The dental laboratory legislation got as far as the Senate floor before time ran out and the session ended. With the help of our professional lobbying team, efforts are underway to get this important legislation across the finish line and passed into law.

The dental laboratory legislation is poised to pass both houses and become law this coming legislative session, but we need your help with one big final push. Our lobbyist has been an invaluable resource. But even though they have graciously discounted their fees for WSDLA, we need to turn to our dental laboratories to raise the additional necessary resources to fund this effort and bring it home. If your lab is able to contribute \$500, or any other amount, we urge you to please do so now. Working together we can win this effort, for the good of our industry and future our profession.

To make a contribution or for additional information contact the WSDLA Office at (800) 652-2212.