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Dr. Lana R. Helms

Indiana Report

The Indiana Association of Orthodontists Board of Directors recently discussed ideas to honor the memory of IAO and GLAO member and Indiana University School of Dentistry long-time orthodontic professor, Dr. Charles "Chuck" Pritchett. Dr. Pritchett practiced orthodontics for many years in the Indianapolis area, and was passionate about teaching the next generation of orthodontists. We hope to announce this memorial gift during our next business meeting in October.

There are currently three legislative bills with upcoming hearings concerning the practice of dentistry and orthodontics in Indiana. SB1: Civil Immunity for COVID-19 which provides shelter for dentists from COVID related liability claims has already been passed by the Senate and is beginning hearings in the House. HB 1079, in committee hearings, would allow dentists to administer immunizations under certain circumstances. HB 1286 amends the definition of "telehealth" to include additional licensed providers and waives confidentiality of medical information of individuals in the vicinity when the patient is using telehealth.

The Indiana Association of Orthodontists is pleased to announce that our 2021 annual IAO component meeting will be held on Friday October 15, 2020 at 12:15 p.m. as part of the GLAO constituent meeting. We hope for great participation by IAO members since the meeting location is in Indianapolis and our own Dr. Anthony Puntillo is the current GLAO president. This outstanding program will include continuing education opportunities for doctors and staff. Mark your calendars for this in-person meeting October 15-16, 2021.

I would highly encourage all IAO members to participate in the virtual "Coffee Chat" coming up on Saturday, February 27th at 8:30 AM EST. The purpose of this session is to engage with GLAO and AAO leadership on important issues affecting members. Your leaders are asking for your opinions on what impacts your practices- positively and negatively. What do you want them to advocate for on your behalf? Watch for a forthcoming email invitation.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me by email at lrhelms@sbcglobal.net

Respectfully submitted,

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