



**Access to Care Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 22, 2009
San Francisco, CA**

Members Present:

Rebecca Downing, Public Member, Chair
John Bettinger, DDS
Luis Dominicis, DDS
Huong Le, DDS
Suzanne McCormick, DDS
Bruce Witcher, DDS

Members Absent:

None

Staff Present:

Cathleen Poncabare, Executive Officer
Richard DeCuir, Assistant Executive Officer
Dawn Dill, Licensing & Exam Unit Manager
Sarah Wallace, Administrative Analyst
Donna Kantner, Legislative & Regulatory Analyst
Jocelyn Campos, Enforcement Coordinator
Jessica Olney, Examination & Licensing Analyst
LaVonne Powell, DCA Senior Staff Counsel
Kristy Schieldge, DCA Senior Staff Counsel
Gregory Salute, Deputy Attorney General

Rebecca Downing, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:48 a.m. and established a quorum.

ACC 1: Loan Repayment Program

Richard DeCuir, Assistant Executive Officer, reported that the legislature introduced the Loan Repayment Program as a three year program. The first year was spent establishing regulations and the last two years focused on the distribution of funds. Within those two years, there were seventeen individuals that utilized the Loan Repayment Program and worked in underserved areas in California.

Mr. DeCuir reported to the Board that there was legislation being drafted to reinstate the Loan Repayment Program with the intent to exhaust the unused funds from the initial program. Mr. DeCuir reported that it would probably take another two years for the funds to be depleted.

Rebecca Downing, Public Member, recommended that the Board take a position on the legislation created to reinstate the Loan Repayment Program, SB 599. The bill will be addressed during the Legislative Committee meeting.

Public Comment

John Geis, San Diego County Dental Society, affirmed the need for access to care in rural communities across California. He is the Chairman of the Access to Care Committee for the San Diego Dental Society and has seen issues arise in community clinics where patients are not being given quality care and the access to care has not been addressed in the past. He would like to see this topic placed on the agenda for a future meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.