



March 2017

To: Community Partner

From: Sarah Bedard Holland, Executive Director, Virginia Oral Health Coalition  
Stacy Campbell, Chair Virginia Oral Health Coalition Board of Directors  
Patrick Finnerty, Chair Virginia Oral Health Coalition Legislative Committee

**Re: Virginia Oral Health Coalition Legislative Committee**

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The Virginia Oral Health Coalition (VaOHC) strives to ensure all Virginians have access to affordable, comprehensive health care that is inclusive of oral health. We work toward this mission through advocacy, provider education and public awareness efforts that are implemented with the help of hundreds of individual and organizational partners across the Commonwealth. Given the significant changes facing health care nationally and at the state level, our work is more important now than ever.

VaOHC's legislative committee members help to shape our advocacy efforts by providing recommendations to the VaOHC board of directors about specific legislation and policy positions that complement VaOHC's Guiding Principles. These five principles are based on the Virginia Oral Health Plan. Committee recommendations may address whether VaOHC should support, oppose or remain neutral on pieces of legislation, or recommend if VaOHC should champion a specific policy initiative.

Advocacy positions are considerably stronger when they represent the views of a wide array of partners. To that end, we intend for our legislative committee members to offer a diverse set of expert opinions to advance VaOHC's mission.

If you are interested in joining the VaOHC legislative committee, we hope you will review the attached Guiding Principles document and submit an application. Please note there is a minimum threshold for participation (80% of all meetings) to ensure continuity. **Applications are due by Monday, April 3, 2017.** Individuals and organizational partners are all welcome to apply. The committee meets bi-monthly during the year and weekly during the General Assembly session, and holds a legislative lobby day during session. Most of the meetings will via webinar or conference call. **The next meeting will be in-person at the VaOHC offices in Richmond on Tuesday, May 4 from 10-12.**

If you have any questions, please direct them to Sarah Bedard Holland at 804.269.8721 or [sholland@vaoralhealth.org](mailto:sholland@vaoralhealth.org).

**Board of Directors**

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**Scott Burnette, Treasurer**

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Northern Virginia Health Foundation

**Executive Director**

**Sarah Bedard Holland**

**Contact Us**

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[info@vaoralhealth.org](mailto:info@vaoralhealth.org)



## Legislative Committee Application

Please complete this form and email it back to Sarah Bedard Holland with a copy of your CV or résumé at [sholland@vaoralhealth.org](mailto:sholland@vaoralhealth.org). If you have any questions, please call Sarah at 804.269.8721. Thank you for your interest.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Why are you interested in joining the Virginia Oral Health Coalition's legislative committee?

Representing underserved populations is an explicit and guiding focus of VaOHC. If you have experience or specific interest in serving underserved populations (e.g. racial, ethnic, or linguistic minorities; rural residents; safety net or publically insured Virginians; people with disabilities, etc.), please tell us here.

Would you like to represent yourself as an individual or an organization?  Individual  Organization

If you selected "Organization," which organization will you represent?

By signing below, I agree that:

- I have read and understand VaOHC's Guiding Principles (see below).
- I understand that all VaOHC policy positions reflect these principles.
- I agree to use these Guiding Principles to help determine VaOHC's policy positions.
- I agree to participate in at least 80% of Legislative Committee meetings either in person or via webinar.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

Email your completed form to [sholland@vaoralhealth.org](mailto:sholland@vaoralhealth.org).



## **Virginia Oral Health Coalition Guiding Principles**

**Virginians know that good oral health is essential to overall health.**

**The prevalence of dental disease is reduced in Virginia through prevention activities and early diagnosis and treatment.**

**Medical and dental providers and educators understand the links between oral health and overall health and work to ensure Virginians receive comprehensive care.**

**Virginians have access to quality, affordable, and comprehensive dental insurance coverage.**

**The oral health workforce in Virginia adequately meets the needs of its citizens by working to the full extent of their education and training.**