ADA American Dental Association®

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July 20, 2021

The Honorable Frank Pallone Chair, House Committee on Energy and Commerce 2125 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers Ranking Member, House Committee on Energy and Commerce 2322A Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Pallone and Ranking Member McMorris Rodgers:

On behalf of the 162,000 members of the American Dental Association (ADA), we respectfully ask the committee to favorably report H.R. 1550, the PREVENT HPV Cancers Act of 2021. As the nation's oldest and largest dental professional organization, we strongly support this bipartisan legislation.

The administration of the HPV vaccine is a safe and effective way to reduce the risk for HPV-related cancers.

As you may know, there is a link between HPV and oral health, as HPV can affect the mouth and throat, causing certain head and neck cancers. HPV is now associated with 9,000 cases of head and neck cancers each year in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. For that reason, the ADA supports increasing awareness of this disease and efforts for immunization against it.

The ADA hopes H.R. 1550 would provide the national public awareness needed to help Americans safeguard their oral health against diseases of the mouth, throat and tonsils. We would appreciate the opportunity to work with Congress to help educate the public about the benefits of the HPV vaccine.

The ADA strongly supports improving the oral health care of all Americans and believes H.R. 1550 would help to do that. On behalf of our members and their patients, we thank you for considering this important legislation. Please contact Ms. Natalie Hales at (202) 898-2404 or <u>halesn@ada.org</u> with any questions.

Sincerely,

~ MBS.MD

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