

Oregon Dental Hygienists' Association  
SB 301 Correction of Expanded Practice  
Collaborative Agreement Provisions  
February 2, 2015

My name is Alec Shebiel and I represent the Oregon Dental Hygienists' Association (ODHA). Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to speak on SB 301 correcting a confusing provision in the statute governing expanded practice collaborative agreements. We support SB 301 and urge you to do the same.

SB 301 deletes confusing language in ORS 680.205(3)(d) regarding the required elements of a Collaborative Agreement that an Expanded Practice Dental Hygienist must have with a dentist in order to perform certain expanded practice functions.

In 2011, the Oregon Legislature passed SB 738, which created the Expanded Practice Dental Hygiene permit in place of the former limited access permit. If an Expanded Practice Dental Hygienist (EPDH) wishes to perform several additional procedures, the EPDH must enter into a Collaborative Agreement with a dentist. But at the end of the list of additional procedures, the current statute includes "dental risk assessment and referral parameters."

This is confusing because all dental hygienists, whether or not they have an EPDH permit, are already required by Board of Dentistry rules to do dental risk assessments and make decisions about necessary referrals. The language requiring the issue to be addressed in a Collaborative Agreement has resulted in confusion in the field about whether dental risk assessments and referral parameters are only needed by those who have an EPDH permit, and not required of all hygienists. SB 301 removes this confusing language.

Oregon Dental Hygienists' Association has worked with the Board of Dentistry and the Oregon Dental Association on SB 301.

SB 301 is a minor correction in the existing law to align and update the statute with the current practice requiring dental risk assessments and referral parameters. We urge your support and yes vote on SB 301.

**Oregon Dental Hygienists' Association**

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