

**March 16, 2015**

**To:** Chair Monnes Anderson, Senate Health Care Committee Members  
**From:** Dr. Jeffery Stewart, OHSU  
**Re:** Senate Bill 662 Public Hearing

Senator Monnes Anderson and members of the Health Care Committee, my name is Dr. Jeffrey Stewart. I am a faculty member at the OHSU School of Dentistry and I am here to testify in support of Senate Bill 662.

SB 662 changes one word in the statute relating to dental instructor licensing so that the Oregon Board of Dentistry can issue a faculty license to dentists who earn an advanced degree from an accredited dental school.

The way the statute is currently written, the Oregon Board of Dentistry can only issue a faculty license to a dentist who earned their degree from an accredited program within an accredited school.

The problem came to light when OHSU hired a dentist faculty member with an advanced degree in Oral Medicine from the University of Washington, which is one of the premier Oral Medicine programs in the United States. The University of Washington School of Dentistry is fully accredited, but the Oral Medicine “program” was not accredited separately because the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) was not accrediting Oral Medicine programs separately at the time of her graduation. These types of programs are accredited along with the general accreditation of the entire dental school programs.

This means, based on the current wording of the statute in question, the Oregon Board of Dentistry cannot grant her a faculty license to practice at the dental school.

This one word change would allow the Oregon Board of Dentistry to issue faculty licenses to dentists who earned their advanced degree from a program in an accredited dental school, even if the program within the school is not separately accredited.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jeffery Stewart  
OHSU School of Dentistry