

To: Senate Health Care Committee
From: Oregon Dental Association
Re: Senate Bill 662



March 16, 2015

Good Afternoon Chair Monnes Anderson and members of the committee. For the record my name is Vanessa Browne and I am an orthodontist from the Portland area and a recent graduate from OHSU. I am here today on behalf of the Oregon Dental Association in support of Senate Bill 662.

We are incredibly fortunate to have a brand new dental school facility in our state. This new building has created a place where dental students can learn and provide patient care in a modern, state of the art setting. The OHSU School of Dentistry plays an important role in fulfilling the oral health care needs of the citizens of Oregon, graduating some of the best clinically trained dentists in the entire nation. In addition to being a place where students and faculty provide important treatment to fellow Oregonians, the school is a nationally recognized dental research facility and is a sponsor for dental continuing education.

Senate Bill 662 modifies the current language regarding the dental instructor's license issued by the State Board of Dentistry. A simple word change will assure that our only dental school in the state will be able to hire the appropriate faculty that have graduated from fully accredited schools, whether specific programs are accredited separately or not, to train the next generation of dentists and dental specialists. This change is critical to continue the educational and patient care programs at the same high level to which we hold ourselves accountable.

Thank you for your time. I am happy to answer any questions.