From: Mark Mutschler
To: HHC Exhibits
Subject: SB835
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I am a dual specialist in pediatric dentistry and orthodontics practicing in Oregon City and in East Portland. I spent four years after dental school studying advanced techniques and knowledge in both pediatric dentistry and orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics in order to call myself a specialist in each of these areas of dentistry.

My wife is a general dentist and although she works in my office and limits her practice of dentistry to children, we follow the current Dental Practice Act guidelines and make it clear to our patients that she is not a Pediatric Dentist. This has not been a problem with our patients accepting her as a dentist for their children and has not adversely affected our practice.

I urge you to support Senate Bill 835. This legislation recognizes dental specialties that satisfy stringent criteria enabling the public to understand their options in choosing a provider. This bill sets forth the criteria below that must be met for a licensed Oregon dentist to advertise that the dentist practices in one or more specialty areas of dentistry:

(a) Has completed a post-doctoral residency program that is at least two years in length and is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation, or its successor organization, and approved by the board by rule;

(b) Is a specialist as defined by the National Commission on Recognition of Dental Specialties and Certifying Boards, or its successor organization, and adopted by the board by rule; or

(c) Has completed an advanced dental education program that is at least two years in length and is recognized by the United States Department of Education and approved by the board by rule.

SB 835 ensures specialty recognition is appropriately defined within statute, promoting safety and a universal standard of care to the public as they inquire whether to seek the services of a specialist or a general dentist.

Thank you for considering my opinion.

Mark Mutschler, DDS, MS