

SB 1550

ADDING INTERIM THERAPEUTIC RESTORATIONS (ITR) TO SERVICES PROVIDED BY AN EXPANDED PRACTICE DENTAL HYGIENIST (EPDH)

SB 1550 defines and adds Interim Therapeutic Restorations (ITR), also referred to as scoop-n-fill or non-drilling fillings, to the scope of services that an Expanded Practice Dental Hygienist (EPDH) may provide when caring for those in need of dental health services.

Evidence-based studies have shown that the majority of underserved individuals with the majority of dental disease cannot take advantage of the traditional oral health delivery system, largely due to severely limited access to dental care providers. SB 1550 provides one tool to address the shortage of dental care providers, by providing needed access to dental care to Oregon's rural, low income and underserved populations, with a focus on children.

In 2011, SB 738 was passed to address the lack of access to dental services by authorizing OHA to approve dental workforce pilot projects, with one option for pilots to "teach new skills to existing categories of dental personnel." SB 1550 is the next step in implementing the SB 738 Pilot Project 200, whose goal was to teach EPDHs the use of Interim Therapeutic Restorations and to integrate this practice into care for rural and underserved areas and populations.

We respectfully request your support for SB 1550.

