

## ANALYSIS

### Item 70: Oregon Board of Dentistry Dental Therapy Fees

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**Analyst:** Emily Coates

**Request:** Acknowledge receipt of the report on Dental Therapy Fees.

**Analysis:** HB 2528 (2021) requires the Oregon Board of Dentistry (OBD) to impose nonrefundable fees for licensing of dental therapists and requires the agency to report to the Emergency Board prior to adopting these fees and charges. OBD reports that the proposed dental therapist application fee will be \$180, and the dental therapy biennial licensure fee will be \$230, which aligns with current licensing fees for dentists and dental hygienists. The Board estimates approximately \$12,300 in revenue in 2022 and anticipates applications and renewals will not be significant for several years. This is due to individuals who seek dental therapy licensure needing an educational background from either Dental Pilot Projects or schools that offer Commission on Dental Accreditation.

The Legislative Fiscal Office notes that the requirement for OBD to report to the Emergency Board prior to adopting fees and charges is not aligned with the fee approval and ratification process most agencies are required to follow for fee changes. Most agency fee changes are subject to ORS 291.055, which requires the Legislature to ratify new or increased fees before they are made permanent, with no requirement to take the additional step of reporting to the Emergency Board. In addition to OBD, several other agencies are subject to separate statutory provisions also requiring them to report to the Emergency Board prior to adopting fee changes.

**Recommendation:** The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends that the Emergency Board acknowledge receipt of the report.

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Oregon Board of Dentistry  
Michelson

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**Request:** Report on adopting fees for licensing Dental Therapists as required by House Bill 2528 (2021) and ORS 679.615

**Recommendation:** Acknowledge receipt of the report.

**Discussion:** During the 2021 Legislative Session, House Bill 2528 granted authority to the Oregon Board of Dentistry (OBD) to issue a new Dental Therapy License to qualified applicants. In order to implement House Bill 2528, the Board of Dentistry is proposing to establish fees for the new licensee base at the same level charged to all other Board licensees. The new fees, effective July 1, 2022, are listed as a \$180 fee for licensure application, \$230 for renewal. The new fees are estimated to generate \$12,300 in 2022.

Prior to adopting the proposed fees and charges, OBD is required by Section 7(2) of House Bill 2528 to submit a report to the Emergency Board in addition to receiving approval from the Department of Administrative Services.



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

**Board of Dentistry**  
1500 SW 1st Ave. Ste 770  
Portland, OR 97201-5837  
(971) 673-3200  
Fax: (971) 673-3202

April 19, 2022

Senator Peter Courtney, Co-Chair  
Representative Dan Rayfield, Co-Chair  
Joint Emergency Board  
900 Court Street NE  
H-178 State Capitol  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs:

## **Nature of the Request**

The Oregon Board of Dentistry (OBD), as directed by House Bill 2528 (2021) and ORS 679 is reporting to the Emergency Board prior to adopting fees for licensing Dental Therapists. Specifically, per Section 7(2) in HB 2528 (2021).

## **Agency Action**

HB 2528 (2021) and ORS 679.615 require that the OBD report to the Emergency Board prior to adopting fees and charges. Dental Therapists will be licensed starting late summer of 2022 for a two-year period and then renew their licenses every two years. Estimated revenue in 2022 is \$12,300 for application and biennial licensure fees. The fees and revenue collected from dental therapy applications and renewals will not be significant for a number of years.

The Oregon Board of Dentistry requests that the Emergency Board acknowledge receipt of a report detailing how dental therapy fees are being implemented and aligned with current licensing fees for dentists & dental hygienists. The OBD convened a new Dental Therapy Rules Oversight Committee to specifically promulgate new rules for setting fee amounts that were determined fair and in alignment with other OBD fees.

### **Proposed Dental Therapist Fees:**

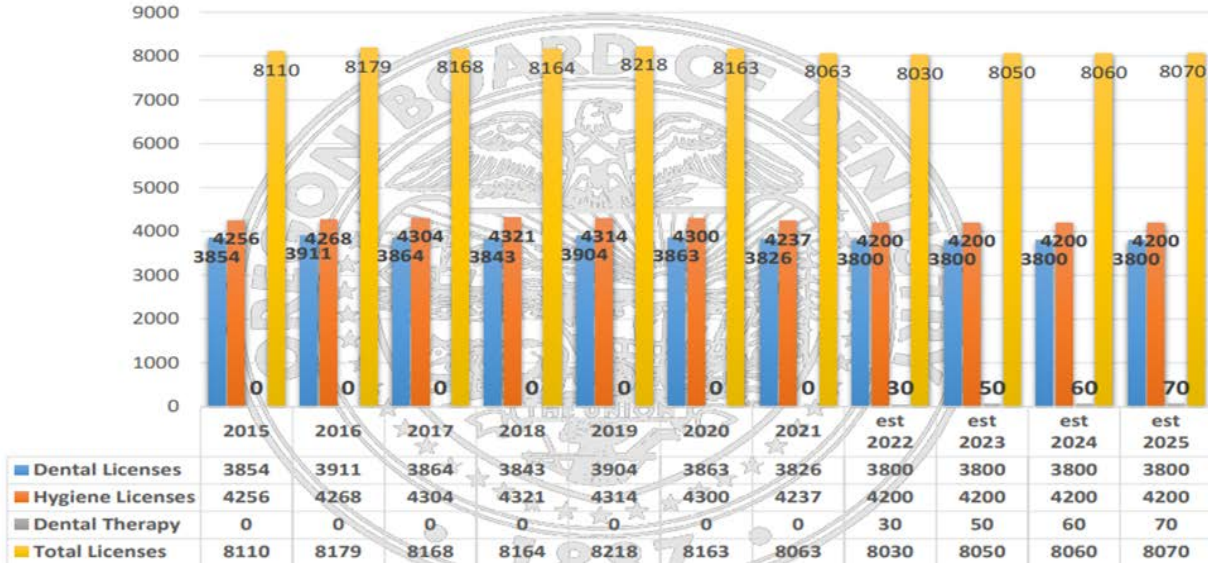
- Dental Therapy Application Fee - \$180
- Dental Therapy Biennial Licensure Fee - \$230

4/19/2022

Additional fees that apply to all Board Licensees:

- Access to Public Records - Lists of Licensees \$50
- Delinquent Fees and License Reinstatement \$50, \$100, \$250 & \$500
- Merchant Card - Credit Card Service fee \$3.50

The chart below shows licensee statistics and estimates going forward.



**Action Requested**

Acknowledge receipt of the report.

**Legislation Affected**

ORS 679.615

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Stephen Prisby  
 OBD Executive Director  
 Stephen.Prisby@obd.oregon.gov  
 971-673-3200