

Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Health Care,

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my opposition of HB 2528 (dental therapist). It looks like an opportunity to increase the access to care, but based on supporting documents looks too far reaching. The map of areas that would be affected by this change are virtually the entire State. This does not look like a problem focused approach. The list of procedures that a dental therapist would be able to perform are almost as much as a licensed dentist. The only category missing is fixed prosthetics. If the committee is looking for a group to take care of Oregon's oral health, it may be helpful to look to the group already tasked with that job- Oregon dentists. If the number of dentists is found lacking, it may be time to find reasons to attract dentist to Oregon. Are there rules that the State of Oregon currently has that make the rest of the country see us as an undesirable place to move to?

Respectfully,
Zephyr Bizeau