

PASS HB 2996 & HB 3223!

HB 3223 will address issues within the dental assistant workforce by removing the costly written requirement for all types of dental assistants seeking certification and replace the written exam with hands-on clinical requirements or alternative pathways adopted by the Board of Dentistry.

Hear from dental providers and past Oregon Board of Dentistry (OBD) presidents about the importance of reducing barriers for applicants across the state:

As a rural dentist and former OBD president, I have seen first-hand the challenges clinics face to find staff that meet current OBD requirements - often dentists have to retrain dental assistants regardless of their past education.

**DR. GARY UNDERHILL, DMD
GENERAL DENTIST
FROM ENTERPRISE**

As a former OBD member and past president, it has become crystal clear that an assistant is no more knowledgeable or safe after they take these exams. The first-time failure rate for the radiology test is almost 30%. The exam acts as an expensive barrier for Oregonians looking to improve their employment opportunities, and, ultimately, decreases access to care for our patients.

**DR. BRANDON SCHWINDT, DMD
PEDIATRIC DENTIST FROM TIGARD**

Having expensive tests with a high failure rate doesn't provide an extra layer of value or safety to the profession. Since departing from the OBD, I've seen the tests create workforce entry barriers leading to access to care issues for the most vulnerable populations in our state.

**DR. AMY FINE, DMD
GENERAL DENTIST FROM
MEDFORD**

We need to continue to evolve with the changing landscape of today's workforce and allow employers more opportunities to attract and keep applicants.

**DR. JARED M. THOMPSON, DMD, MAGD
GENERAL DENTIST FROM PORTLAND**