

Testimony in opposition of:

House Bill 2996: *Prohibits Oregon Board of Dentistry from requiring applicant for certification as dental assistant to pass written examination for radiological proficiency.*

Dear Representative Nosse and members of the Behavioral Health and Health Care Committee,

As a long-time Oregon career dental assistant, dental trainer, educator, and patient, I oppose this bill that will eliminate the education and training that has been required for dental assistants in the state of Oregon for over 50 years.

Eliminating this rule will reduce the level of quality and safety for Oregon dental patient visits. Radiation exposure that is not performed by people who are educated and have demonstrated knowledge through examination can cause long-term irreversible damage.

To remove this rule will not improve the shortage of dental assistants in the state of Oregon. Other states who do not have dental assistant radiation rules in place are experiencing the same shortage. Why remove something that has worked well for over 50 years???

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Jorgensen, CDA, EFDA, EFODA