

Submitter: Kari Hiatt

On Behalf Of: Self

Committee: House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2979

House Bill 2979: An Act Relating to dental care providers; Section 9 (1) The State Workforce and Talent Development Board shall develop an educational module that serves as an introduction to the profession of dental assisting. The board shall make the module available to the public at no cost.

There is absolutely no value in dental assisting training modules if there are no requirements for dentists or credentialed assistants to mentor the trainees through the content in the training module package. Learners need the opportunity to interact with and receive feedback from a program facilitator.

My concern is that if new training programming is created, there will be few offices with the capacity to provide mentorship to the learner that incorporates the content of the training modules. Many offices are unable to help train students being trained in a formal dental assistant program - there will be even fewer offices with personal available to support and provide preceptorship to those with no formal education.

Very Respectfully,

Kari Hiatt, CDA, EFDA, EFODA, MS

---