

Submitter: Marsha Peterson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2996

I am a resident of Oregon and I am writing to urge you to vote no on House Bill 2996. This bill , if passed, would forbid the Oregon Board of Dentistry from requiring dental assistants to pass a radiological proficiency exam before taking dental x-rays.

House Bill 2996 is not the solution and it puts dental patients and dental professionals at risk. I might find myself getting an x-ray by an assistant who is not properly trained, which is associated with a risk of cell damage that can increase the chances of getting cancer.

HB 2996:

- .Increases risk to patient and provider alike.
- .Waters down the quality of care received by patients
- .Devalues the dental assisting profession

An objective radiation safety exam is necessary to protect patients and workers. The current exam, DANB's Radiation Health and Safety exam is convenient and accessible, and the content is validated and regularly updated. If this bill passes, it will make Oregon the first state to prohibit us of an objective exam to assess whether dental assistants have the knowledge required to safely expose patients to ionizing radiation.

I strongly urge you to vote no on HB2996.