

Submitter: Audrey Ferguson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB3223

I am a dental professional in Oregon, and I urge you to vote no on this House Bill because it:

Puts patient health and safety at risk

Lowers the quality of patient care

Undermines and devalues the dental assisting profession

Will worsen the shortage of qualified providers

Dental assistants are critical members of the dental team and the duties they perform require specialized knowledge. Lowering the certification standard minimizes the value of their role in the practice and undercuts the profession, which will lead to even more workforce issues.

You must pass written test to work in dental. You must have basic knowledge of the rules and regulations. There are too many text book facts to know daily, you can not learn "on the job".

No need to remove the written exams because it provides a bar that in individual needs to meet before entering the dental world. The work force is very lazy and unmotivated. If they can't take the time to study and learn for the written exam then how will they take the time to learn on the job? There is no space for error, people will get hurt and the doctor is liable.

It is so important to know the anatomy of the radiographic. To know what is diagnostic and what is not. If dental radiology license is removed might as move on to medical. Hard to understand the difference. Radiation needs to be with a licensed individual.

I strongly urge you to vote no.

Thank you for your careful consideration of what is best for the health of Oregonians.