

Submitter: Linda Rain

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB3223

When I go to the dentist, I trust that ALL of the dental care I receive will be provided by dentists, hygienists and assistants that know how to safely provide the services. This bill takes away that protection for me. If dental assistants do not have to pass exams to show that they know how to safely do their jobs, including infection control, how am I to feel safe?

I know that healthcare is really struggling to find qualified auxiliaries, but the answer is NOT to lower the standards of the testing that ensures competency. As a dental patient with health conditions that make me vulnerable to serious ramifications if I become ill, I do not want to see the standard of healthcare in this country reduced just to fill work shortages.

I oppose HB 3223 because it:

Undermines and devalues the dental assisting profession.

Could reduce pay, opportunities and job satisfaction for dental assistants.

Will worsen the shortage of qualified providers.

Puts patient health and safety at risk.

Reduces dentists focus on their patient because their focus will need to be on the under qualified trainees.

Lowers the quality of patient care.

We encourage you to vote No on HB 3223.