I urge you to vote no on HB 2996 and HB 3223 because they:

- * Put patient health and safety at risk
- * Lower the quality of patient care
- * Undermine and devalue 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.

I strongly urge you to vote no.

Thank you for your careful consideration of what is best for the health of Oregonians. HB 3223: