

Chairwoman Patterson, Vice Chair Hayden and health committee,

My name is Pamela Lynch, I am a dental hygienist in your district. There is a nationwide shortage of direct care dental professionals, particularly hygienist and dental assistance. Two bills that are being introduced in this session that would greatly impact high quality care dental patients would receive. They are HB 2996 and HB 3223.

I am concerned that if passed, would greatly affect the ability for the Oregon Board of Dentistry from requiring written examination for dental assistance to acquire a Radiology Certificate.

Dentists and dental hygienists are required to take a written examination for a Radiology Certification to show basic competency. Passing these tests provides the public with confidence that the dental team member providing the radiographs has met those requirements.

There are many online and in-person dental assisting programs available, and these tests can be taken remotely. The Oregon Board of Dentistry, Division 42 Dental Assistant Pathways are clearly defined in the Oregon Dental Practice Act. DNAB, a third party board which administers the examination has clear instructions on exam application and are available online and can be submitted online. This DANB video explains the processes ad exam preparation, [\(70\) Dental Assisting and DANB Certification - YouTube](#).

Depending on the certificate desired, DANB exams can range from \$320 (radiology exam) or \$620 (expanded functions exam), which are established through national standard fess for comparable professions.

Please vote **no on HB 2996 and HB 3223** to maintain this standard for the dental team members who provide direct patient care.

Thank you for your consideration,
Pamela Lynch, BSDH, RDH, LAe