

To: House Health Care Committee From: Oregon Dental Association

RE: HB 2948

Good Afternoon Chair Greenlick and members of the committee. My name is Dr. Dan Saucy and I am here today on behalf of the Oregon Dental Association. I am both the chair of the Government Relations Council for the ODA and a full time general dentist here in Salem. Thank you for allowing me to speak today in support of HB 2948.

Many members of the Oregon Dental Association participate in a variety of ongoing continuing education programs. Some of these programs are required courses for licensure, others are volunteer study groups, or even opportunities up at OHSU. As the world continues to grow smaller and international connections continue to form, we hear about skills and practices that foreign dentists perform that could educate and contribute to dentistry in Oregon.

Currently, foreign dentists may come to Oregon to lecture and teach, but cannot show or demonstrate these procedures on a live patient. SB 2948 authorizes dentists licensed in other countries to participate in educational activities related to dentistry by allowing them to give "hands on" presentations to dentists. To be eligible, dentists licensed in another country must be in good standing with their native board, must apply to the Oregon Board of Dentistry and be approved before performing any procedure, and are limited to no more than 5 consecutive days of dental practice in Oregon in any 12 month period.

As introduced, SB 2948 also allows foreign dentists to be granted hospital staff privileges. This was never the intention and the -1 amendment to the bill removes this language. We are only interested in allowing foreign dentists temporary licenses for the purposes of continuing education. ODA has not heard of any opposition to the amended bill.

Thank you again for time. I am happy to answer any questions you might have.