

**Testimony to House Committee on Health Care
in Support of Senate Bill 824
Tuesday, May 21, 2019**

**Presented by Lisa Rowley, RDH
on Behalf of the Oregon Dental Hygienists' Association**

Chair Salinas & members of the committee:

For the record, my name is Lisa Rowley and I reside in Portland, Oregon. I am a member of the Oregon Dental Hygienists' Association and I am representing ODHA today as their Advocacy Director.

The Oregon Dental Hygienists' Association supports Senate Bill 824 and we strongly support the -3 amendment that will add dental hygiene licensure to this bill.

Senate Bill 824 with the -3 amendment will allow the Oregon Board of Dentistry to accept results from "board-recognized" testing agencies **in addition to** the current national and regional testing agencies that use live patients for their clinical competency examinations. "Board-recognized" testing agencies could include testing agencies that do **not** use live patients for their clinical competency examinations. Passage of Senate Bill 824 will allow Oregon to move toward eliminating the use of live patients for clinical competency examinations that are used for dental and dental hygiene licensure.

The elimination of live patients from clinical competency examinations used for dental and dental hygiene licensure has been part of an ongoing national discussion about modernizing the licensure process for dentistry. The elimination of live patients from clinical competency examinations used for dental and dental hygiene licensure is supported by the American Dental Association, the American Dental Hygienists' Association and the American Dental Education Association.

In closing, the Oregon Dental Hygienists' Association supports Senate Bill 824 with the -3 amendment because it will allow Oregon to lead the nation in the movement to eliminate the use of live patients for clinical competency examinations used for dental and dental hygiene licensure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today. I would be happy to answer any questions.