

I am writing to support the dental therapy legislation in Oregon. I have been involved with dental therapy since the original program in Alaska 15 years ago. I have visited there several times as well as to Minnesota which has had dental therapists for 10 years. I have reviewed virtually all of the published literature on dental therapy in the United States. 100% of the published scientific evidence on dental therapy supports the safety, quality and cost effectiveness of their dental care. The commission on dental accreditation of the American Dental Association has developed educational standards for dental therapy educational programs, certifying their safety and quality. Opponents of dental therapy are simply lying or misleading you if they say that dental therapists are unsafe or not qualified. Ask them for documentation. There is no such documentation. I would urge you to support this legislation.