

I OPPOSE [SB 441].

Senators Hyden and Girod are to be commended for their combined efforts to increase access to dental care. However, the "shotgun" approach of throwing money at various agencies, "The Oregon Health Authority, the State Workforce and Talent Development Board, the Higher Education Coordinating Commission and the Department of Education" is a classic illustration of the abdication of fiscal responsibility.

Does [SB 441] support the "dumbing-down" of existing accredited Dental Assistant Training programs? Do the proposed "Training modules" have professionally recognized accreditation to the standards set forth by, "The Commission on Dental Accreditation?"

Does [SB 441] address the long-term strategy of raising the level of "Dental Assistant" resulting in the attraction and retaining of educated professionals into providing significant, long-term careers with good salaries and workplace benefits? No, it does not.

Does [SB 441] treat everyone "equally" under the law? It does not appear so. [SB 441] is designed to serve, "...tribal, rural, low-income, and other underserved populations..."

Personally, I would recommend reviewing the costs associated with retention of, "The State Workforce and Talent Development Board and The Higher Education Coordinating Commission." Further examination pertaining to the administration structure and budgets of, "The Oregon Health Authority and the Department of Education" should become an immediate priority prior to approving their budgetary allocations.

David S. Wall

Mr. Oregon Concur...[SB 441] should be considered a "Greek Tragedy" steeped with socialized Dentistry.

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