



January 31, 2023

Members of the Senate Health Care Committee,

The Oregon Association of Dental Laboratories urges your support for SB 412.

SB 412 requires dental laboratories to register with the Health Licensing Office, to provide material content and point of origin disclosures for every restoration made, and to employ at least one technician who meets certain educational requirements. A dental laboratory is exempt from registration if it is either part of an educational program or if it is in-house to a dental office or practice and only does work for that dental office or practice.

In Oregon today, dental laboratories are not legally required to provide any disclosures to dentists unless those disclosures are specifically requested by the dentist. Even if requested by the dentist, a dental laboratory is only required to specify where a completed restoration was manufactured, but not what it is made out of or where particular components were manufactured.

OADL supports requiring state registration of dental laboratories as set forth in SB 412, because added transparency and accountability amongst the dental laboratories helps assure that every dental laboratory serving Oregon dentists provides accurate, detailed material content and point of origin disclosures to dentists. As the market for restoration products is becoming more and more complex, it is becoming increasingly important that dentists are provided accurate information about the restorations they are placing.

The registration program in SB 412 is intended to be revenue neutral, which has been the experience in other states that have adopted dental laboratory registration laws.

We acknowledge that costs are always a consideration, particularly our shared goal with others in the dental industry to enhance access for our most vulnerable populations. However, according to the market data, the adoption by other states of similar accountability and transparency safeguards for dental laboratories has not resulted in increased fees. We do not anticipate dental laboratory registration requirements to have an effect on costs.

SB 412 is a simple bill that will enhance patient safety and consumer safeguards, and we urge your support.

Sincerely,

Carrie Piel-Warner
Executive Director, OADL