

Submitter: Heather Matthews

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2996

When I first entered the world of dentistry I was 17. I started as a DA in California where you are able to earn hours, and then challenge the boards and get your license. However, I wanted a degree. I went on to college where I received an Associate's degree in Dental Assisting, and moved to Oregon. Unfortunately, the hoops I had to jump through and not to mention the \$2,000 I had to spend to get the appropriate licensure here in Oregon. in less than a year to see this bill come up anger's me on many levels. I'm now almost 39 so I have been in dental my entire adult life as an assistant. Looking back now I don't think I could have provided adequate care to patients, to myself, or to my colleagues if I had not properly gone through specific training, and gotten the appropriate licensing needed. I oppose this bill. I fear if it's passed corporate dental practices will eat this up, with huge turn over rates allowing to pay such assistants less, and what repercussions will be faced? Whose license will be at fault?