

2/13/23

Dear Representative Rob Nosse, chair, and the members of the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care,

The Oregon Dental Assistants Association opposes HB 3223.

Dental professionals need to assure patients that dentistry will provide quality care in a safe environment. In the state of Oregon, a dentist and hygienist must hold a license and follow the standards and rules established by the Oregon Board of Dentistry. However, dental assistants can be on-the-job trained and do not hold a license, therefore the standards in Division 42, Dental Assisting, are imperative and must remain.

This bill is damaging to the entire dental community and the patients we serve. The standards set forth by Division 42, Dental Assisting, of the Oregon Board of Dentistry rules promote quality oral health while protecting all patients in the field of dentistry.

House Bill 3223 lowers the quality of patient care and undermines and devalues the profession of Dental Assisting.

Certificates and instruction for dental professionals need to be maintained in order to assure the safety of the clinicians, as well as the patient.

Eliminating any standards will weaken the quality of care and safety for Oregon patients.

I am asking that this committee does not move House Bill 3223 forward.

Respectfully,  
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