

Testimony on House Bill 2676

Submitted February 16, 2025 by Stephen Prisby, Executive Director, Oregon Board of Dentistry (OBD) stephen.prisby@obd.oregon.gov 971-673-3200

The 10 Board Members of the OBD will be reviewing HB 2676 and the CSG Dental/Dental Hygiene License Compact Commission in greater detail at its February 28th Board Meeting, and at this time the OBD is neutral has taken no position on HB 2676.

A very brief overview of concerns with Oregon joining the CSG Dental/Dental Hygiene License Compact Commission via HB 2676 that the executive director is noting.

Patient Safety Concerns

- Continuing Education (CE) and practice requirements currently required of Oregon Licensees - enshrined in statute:
 - Cultural Competency
 - Pain Management
 - OHA Health Care Workforce Reporting Survey
 - Health Care Interpreters
 - Dental Therapists have to be supervised by an Oregon licensed dentist and a collaborative agreement itemizes procedures & supervision level
 - Dental Hygienists with an Expanded Practice Permit may also enter into a collaborative agreement with an Oregon licensed dentist for certain care and procedures

- The OBD has some unique CE Rules:
 - Dental Implant (Initial 56 hours – 7 hours per renewal)
 - Sedation Permits – 4 levels in Oregon
 - Supervision of the dental team – Dental Hygienists and Dental Assistants

HB 2676 as introduced would not require dentists and dental hygienists practicing in Oregon through the Compact to complete Oregon required CE. The OBD may have to consider abolishing all CE, as it would not seem fair or equitable to make Oregon Licensees complete requirements when compact practitioners would not have to complete any besides what is required of their home state.

Finances

An assessment levied, or other financial obligation imposed, under this Compact is effective against the State of Oregon only to the extent that moneys necessary to pay the assessment or meet the financial obligation have been deposited in the Oregon Board of Dentistry Account established under ORS 679.260.

The Compact Commission could theoretically empty the OBD's account to cover any fees or assessments levied on it by the Compact. The Compact may also borrow money.

Rules

The Oregon Board of Dentistry shall review the rules of the Commission. The board may approve and adopt the rules of the Commission as rules of the board. The State of Oregon is subject to a rule of the Commission only if the rule of the Commission is adopted by the board.

ORS 676.177

Disclosure of confidential information to another public entity

(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of ORS 676.165 (Complaint investigation) to 676.180 (Notice prior to disclosure), a health professional regulatory board, upon a determination by the board that it possesses otherwise confidential information that reasonably relates to the regulatory or enforcement function of another public entity, may disclose that information to the other public entity.

(2) Any public entity that receives information pursuant to subsection (1) of this section shall agree to take all reasonable steps to maintain the confidentiality of the information, except that the public entity may use or disclose the information to the extent necessary to carry out the regulatory or enforcement functions of the public entity.

(3) For purposes of this section, "public entity" means:

(a) A board or agency of this state, or a board or agency of another state with regulatory or enforcement functions similar to the functions of a health professional regulatory board of this state;

(b) A district attorney;

(c) The Department of Justice;

(d) A state or local public body of this state that licenses, franchises or provides emergency medical services; or

(e) A law enforcement agency of this state, another state or the federal government.

(4) Notwithstanding subsections (1) to (3) of this section, the Oregon Board of Physical Therapy may disclose information described in subsection (1) of this section to the Physical Therapy Compact Commission established in ORS 688.240 (Physical Therapy Licensure Compact).

[1999 c.751 §2; 2016 c.13 §3; 2019 c.43 §7]

ORS 670.275

Policy statement

In enacting chapter 753, Oregon Laws 1971, it is the intention of the Legislative Assembly to provide for the more effective coordination of the administrative functions of boards charged with responsibility for protecting the public through the licensing and regulating of certain professions practiced in this state. Further, it is the intention of the Legislative Assembly to retain responsibility for decisions on qualifications, standards of practice, licensing, discipline and other discretionary functions relating to professional activities in the professional licensing boards, members of which are qualified by education, training and experience to make the necessary judgments. [Formerly 184.575]