

February 17, 2025

Chair Nosse, Vice Chair Javadi & Members of the Committee
Senate Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care
2025 Oregon Legislative Session

I am writing to you in **support of HB 2676** that if passed would enact the DDH Compact in Oregon.

I am a dental hygienist living in Portland, and I have been working at Pacific University as an educator for almost 15 years.

I support the DDH Compact because increased portability of dental hygiene licenses would benefit practitioners across the country. I moved from North Carolina in 2010, and I had to apply for reciprocity here in Oregon, so I have navigated this process myself. It would have been great if there would have been a compact like this in place as I think it would have been simpler and likely faster. Something else to consider is that armed forces members and spouses would be supported with the DDH compact, which could be very helpful as they face moving somewhat more frequently than the average civilian.

It is important to note that adoption of the compact doesn't impact requirements for licensure—the Oregon Board of Dentistry determines those requirements, so the DDH compact will not change the qualifications for licensure. This compact is supported by both the American Dental Association (ADA) and the American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA). Support from both of these groups speaks to how beneficial this would be for dental personnel.

I strongly urge you to refer HB 2676 to the House with a do pass recommendation.

Sincerely,



Kathryn P Bell

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Kathryn Bell, EdD, RDH