

17 February 2025

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

Dear Chair Nosse, Vice Chair Javadi, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my **support for HB 2676**, which, if passed, would enact the DDH Compact in Oregon.

I am a dental hygienist living in Oregon and working in private practice in the Beaverton area. I support the DDH Compact because I am a military spouse. My husband serves in the Air Force, and we have spent countless hours stressing about where we would be stationed next and navigating licensure requirements in each potential state. We always try to prepare and start the process as early as possible, but found that many states only offer military spouses a “temporary” license, which is often limited and contingent on completing all state-specific requirements—often including retaking board examinations.

I am licensed in Oregon under WREB, and we always hoped to avoid being stationed in certain states that would have required me to take their version of the clinical board exam (i.e. ADEC in Florida). With a BS in Dental Hygiene and years of work experience, I felt retaking the test was unnecessary and logistically difficult—finding a patient after a move, gathering instruments, and waiting for the next test date.

Although we have been fortunate to be stationed here in Oregon, where I went to school and received my initial licensure, I know that many military spouses are not so lucky. Joining the DDH Compact would alleviate much of the stress associated with relocation and allow spouses to return to work quickly after a move—a period when many cannot afford to be unemployed. Most importantly, it would validate the hard-earned clinical hours accrued during school and the years of experience gained in the field.

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

Sincerely,
Molly P., RDH