

SB 426

**PRESENTATION OF THE
BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS**

**TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND
CONSUMER PROTECTION**

**TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2009**

**Wednesday, February 4, 2009
9:30 a.m.**

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 426, RELATING TO DENTISTRY.

**TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:**

My name is Jeffrey Miyazawa, D.D.S., Chair of the Board of Dental Examiners ("Board"). The Board appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of S.B. No. 426, Relating to Dentistry.

The purpose of S.B. No. 426, is to grant dentists participating in an accredited dental residency program temporary licensure for the duration of their residency program.

The bill creates a new temporary license classification for persons enrolled in a post-doctoral residency program that is accredited by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation ("CODA"), and authorizes them to practice dentistry exclusively under the auspices of the dental residency program. The temporary licensees shall be assigned to affiliated training sites that shall be visited and accredited by CODA and act under the direct supervision of a dental residency faculty licensed in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of S.B. No. 426.



Hawai'i Primary Care Association

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To: **The Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection**
The Hon. Roslyn H. Baker, Chair
The Hon. David Y. Ige, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 426
Relating to Dentistry
Submitted by Beth Giesting, CEO
Wednesday, February 4, 2009, 9:30 a.m. agenda, Room 229

The Hawai'i Primary Care Association urges your support for this bill, which is needed to enable newly graduated dentists to participate in a planned pediatric residency program. Its passage will also allow the development other dental residency programs as needs and resources may occur in future.

Hawai'i has a modest number of dentists who specialize in treating children and a serious deficit in the number of dentists able to accommodate children covered by the Medicaid program. According to the National Maternal & Child Oral health Resource Center, "Head Start staff and parents report that the number one health issue affecting children enrolled in Head Start nationwide is access to oral health services." They further note that "many dentists do not feel comfortable providing services to infants and young children, despite agreement within the oral health community (Academy of General Dentistry, American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, and American Dental Association) that children should see a dentist by age 1."

The planned pediatric residency will help address such access problems by creating a well-trained pediatric dental workforce, support recruitment and retention of dentists who work at Community Health Centers where most of the residency program takes place, and will even provide some of the skills and facility linkages needed to improve access for adults with developmental disabilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to add our support for this measure.



KOKUA KALIHI VALLEY

Comprehensive Family Services

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To: The Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

The Hon. Roslyn H. Baker, Chair

The Hon. David Y. Ige, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 426

Relating to Dentistry

Submitted by David Derauf MD MPH, Executive Director

Wednesday, February 4, 2009, 9:30 a.m. agenda, Room 229

Kokua Kalihi Valley urges your support for this bill, which is needed to enable newly graduated dentists to participate in a planned pediatric residency program, of which Kokua Kalihi Valley will be playing a key role.

Hawai'i has an insufficient number of dentists who specialize in treating children and are able to accommodate children covered by the Medicaid program as well as the uninsured. Access to dental services for young children is a huge problem nationwide, and here in Hawaii many of our communities lag far behind national standards in regards to the oral health of our keiki.

This bill will make possible the planned pediatric dental residency which will help address this access to care problem by building a well trained pediatric dental workforce, with a focus on Hawaii's most disadvantaged communities. It will also support the recruitment and retention of dentists who work at Community Health Centers and will even provide some of the skills and facility linkages needed to improve access for adults with developmental disabilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to add our support for this measure.

LĀNA'Ī WOMEN'S CENTER DBA LĀNA'Ī COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

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To: The Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
The Hon. Roslyn H. Baker, Chair
The Hon. David Y. Ige, Vice Chair

**Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 426 Relating to Dentistry
Submitted by Diana V. Shaw, PhD, MPH, MBA, FACMPE, Executive Director
Wednesday, February 4, 2009, 9:30 a.m. agenda, Room 229**

The **Lāna'ī Women's Center dba Lāna'ī Community Health Center** urges your support for this bill, which is needed to enable newly graduated dentists to participate in a planned pediatric residency program. Its passage will also allow the development other dental residency programs as needs and resources may occur in future.

Lāna'ī has only one dentist. She travels from Honolulu to provide services to our community. She has been generous enough to enter into an MOA with our organization to provide services to children and adults who are uninsured or underinsured. The need is great in our community - using statistics for our adult population as a proxy for pediatric needs: Only 49.5% of Lāna'ī adults visited a dentist within the past year - the lowest percent in the state. Sixty-three percent of our adults had permanent teeth removed in the past year - the highest percent in the state. Only 49.6% of adults had their teeth cleaned in the past year - again the worst in the state! Our community is at the highest risk based upon adult oral health risk indicators.

The planned pediatric residency will help address access problems by creating a well trained pediatric dental workforce, support recruitment and retention of dentists who work at Community Health Centers where most of the residency program takes place, and will even provide some of the skills and facility linkages needed to improve access for adults with developmental disabilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to add our support for this measure.

E Ola nō Lāna'ī

LIFE, HEALTH, and WELL-BEING FOR LĀNA'Ī



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TO: The Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
The Hon. Roslyn Baker, Chair
The Hon. David Ige, Vice Chair


Letter in Support of Senate Bill 426
Relating to Dentistry

I urgently ask the committee's support in the passage of this bill in its original form. This bill is vital in launching the pediatric dental residency program, scheduled to begin July 1st, 2009.

There is intense awareness of a severe need in accessing dental services to the underserved community, especially for children. This becomes more profound when access for the developmentally disabled is examined. The concept and implementation of a pediatric residency that cares for Hawaii's underserved, developmentally disabled, and special needs are essential.

Hawaii's children have one of the worst dental statistics in the nation in terms of dental diseases and unmet treatment needs. On most neighbor islands, it is almost impossible for children with Medicaid coverage to find dental services, but a pediatric dental residency program with outreach capabilities will help tremendously.

Thank you for your support of this bill

Sincerely,

Samuel Ishimura, DDS, FACP, FACD, FICD
Assistant Director of Education
Regional Coordinator, Hawaii Region
AEGD Residency Program
Lutheran Medical Center

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