

LATE

**PRESENTATION OF THE
BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2009

Friday, March 20, 2009
9:00 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 51, S.D.1, RELATING TO DENTISTRY.

TO THE HONORABLE RYAN I. YAMANE, 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. 51, S.D.1, Relating to Dentistry.

The purpose of S.B. No. 51, S.D.1 is to amend the definition of the practice of dentistry to include tooth whitening. The companion bill, H.B. No. 1209, was passed out by this Committee on February 13, 2009 with substantially similar amendments.

The Board believes tooth whitening is within the scope of practice of dentistry and not merely a cosmetic procedure as there is potential harm to the patient's gums and teeth if the procedure is not done correctly. Currently, there is general language related to treating teeth and this bill will clarify that tooth whitening is included in the practice of dentistry.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of S.B. No. 51, S.D.1.