

# HB 1053, HD 1

**Measure Title:** RELATING TO NATIONAL DENTAL HYGIENE EXAMINATIONS.

**Report Title:** National dental hygiene examination

**Description:** Amends the requirements of licensure for dental hygienists by specifying that the passage of the National Dental Hygiene Examination is a requirement for licensure. (HB1053 HD1)

**Companion:** SB1280

**Package:** Gov

**Current Referral:** CPN/HTH

**PRESENTATION OF THE  
BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS**

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

**AND**

**TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH**

**TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2011**

**Friday, April 1, 2011  
9:45 a.m.**

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 1053, H.D.1, RELATING TO NATIONAL DENTAL  
HYGIENE EXAMINATIONS.**

**TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR,  
TO THE HONORABLE JOSH GREEN, M.D., CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEES:**

My name is Marilyn Nonaka, R.D.H., dental hygiene member of the Board of Dental Examiners ("Board"). The Board appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 1053, H.D.1, Relating to National Dental Hygiene Examinations.

The purpose of House Bill No. 1053, H.D.1 is to specify in the statute that passage of the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination is a requirement for licensure as a dental hygienist in Hawaii. In addition, technical non-substantive amendments are also proposed.

The National Board Dental Hygiene Examination is a didactic examination developed and administered by the American Dental Association Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations and is required for licensure by all states. This examination is usually taken prior to graduation during a dental hygiene student's last year at an accredited dental hygiene school.

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The National Board Dental Hygiene Examination is a pre-requisite requirement, similar to the requirement to be a graduate from an accredited dental hygiene school. It is not the same type of examination and is a separate examination as provided in subsections 447-1(b) and (c). The examinations referenced in subsections 447-1(b) and (c) are clinical licensure examinations to primarily test an applicant's clinical skills in the practice of dental hygiene.

Although specified as a requirement for licensure as a dental hygienist in the Board's administrative rules, due to an oversight this provision was never enacted in the statute.

Therefore, this bill would enact in the statute and clearly provide statutory authority for the requirement to pass the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination for licensure of dental hygienists, similarly as required by all other states.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 1053, H.D.1.



March 30, 2011

**THE SENATE  
THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2011  
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION  
AND  
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Friday, April 1, 2011  
9:45a.m.  
Conference Room #229  
Hawaii State Capitol**

**TESTIMONY ON H.B. 1053 - RELATING TO COMMERCE AND  
CONSUMER PROTECTION.**

To The Honorable Chairs, Roslyn H. Baker, and Dr. Josh Green,  
M.D. and Members of the Committees, Aloha—

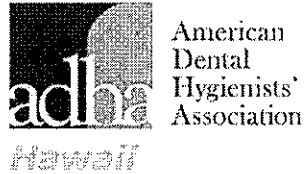
My name is Gayle Rubino. I am the President of the Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association.

**We are in SUPPORT of Bill HB 1053, HD1 as written, without  
amendments**

I would like to thank the members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection for hearing this testimony.

The National Board Dental Hygiene Examination is a comprehensive didactic exam of a candidate's knowledge of the applied sciences relating to dental hygiene and the reasoning ability of the candidate to evaluate case studies and apply the dental hygiene process of care. This examination is a valid indicator of a potential candidate's intellectual readiness for the practice of dental hygiene.

The American Dental Association, The American Dental Hygienists' Association, the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations, and Dental Hygiene programs throughout the United States are in agreement that candidates for Dental Hygiene Licensure must successfully pass the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination. The examination is generally taken shortly before the student's matriculation from a dental hygiene program and prior to applying for a clinical State or Regional Board Examination.



This bill would provide the statutory authority to require an applicant for dental hygiene licensure to have passed the National Board Dental Hygiene Exam, and would bring the Hawaii Administrative Rules into agreement with the Statutes.

Thank you for the opportunity for us to offer supportive testimony for HB1053.

Respectfully,

M. Gayle Rubino, RDH, BA, MSDH  
President