

**PRESENTATION OF THE
BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS**

**TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE**

**TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2012**

Thursday, March 29, 2012
2:35 p.m.

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 2013, S.D.1, H.D.1, RELATING TO DENTAL
HYGIENISTS.**

TO THE HONORABLE ROBERT N. HERKES, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Marilyn Nonaka, dental hygienist member of the Board of Dental Examiners ("Board"). The Board appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 2013, S.D.1, H.D.1, Relating to Dental Hygienists.

The purpose of Senate Bill No. 2013, S.D.1, H.D.1, is to require a dental hygienist license to be prominently displayed at all times in the office where the dental hygienist is employed or practices.

Prominently displaying the dental hygiene license in the place of employment would contribute to the public safety by:

- Demonstrating to the public seeking dental hygiene services that the professional is licensed and qualified in the State of Hawaii to provide preventive and therapeutic services.
- Assuring employer dentists that the dental hygienist in their employ meets the professional standards for licensure as established by the State of Hawaii.

Testimony on Senate Bill No. 2013, S.D.1, H.D.1
Thursday, March 29, 2012
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The Board respectfully requests the effective date in Section 3 be changed to upon approval of the Act and thanks you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 2013, S.D.1, H.D.1.

March 26, 2012

COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE

Representative Robert N. Herkes, Chair
Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Vice-Chair

SB2013 SD1 HD1

**Hearing Date: Thursday, March 29, 2012, 2:35 p.m.
Conference Room 325
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street**

Gayle Rubino, RDH, BA, MSDH
21 N. Kalaheo Ave.
Kailua, HI 96734
gaylerubino@hotmail.com

Aloha Chairman Herkes and Vice-Chair Yamane:

I strongly support SB2013, SD1, HD1 requiring dental hygienists to display their original or a copy of their original certificate of licensure in their workplace. For the protection of the public, please have this bill effective immediately upon the Governor's signature.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very Respectfully,



M. Gayle Rubino

Testimony for SB2013 on 3/29/2012 2:35:00 PM

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 7:21 PM

To: CPCtestimony

Cc: gfrubino@gmail.com

Testimony for CPC 3/29/2012 2:35:00 PM SB2013

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Giacinto Rubino
Organization: Individual
E-mail: gfrubino@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/26/2012

Comments:

I am a dentist and I strongly support this bill. Please have it effective immediately upon the Governor's signature.

Re: S.B. 2013, SD1, HD1
Committee: House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
Hearing Date: March 28, 2012
Time: 2:35 pm
Room: Conference Room 325
Number of copies needed:

Dear Honorable Representative Robert Herkes, Chair; Honorable Brian Yamane, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee:

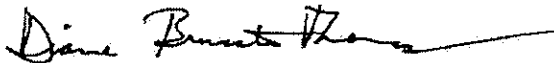
This testimony is in support of S.B. 2013, SD1, HD2 with request to TAKE PLACE IMMEDIATELY, NOT in 2050. This bill would require dental hygienists, in Hawaii, to prominently display their license to practice, at all times, in every office in which they are employed to practice.

As a minimum, this measure would serve to inform the public of their clinicians' legal qualifications to safely provide dental hygiene services. Dental hygienists are:

- 1) College educated with an Associate degree or Bachelor degree as entry level;
- 2) Required to pass a written National examination;
- 3) Required to have their skills clinically tested on live patients;
- 4) Required to meet licensure criteria; and
- 5) Required to fulfill and maintain continuing education criteria.

Requiring the display of licensure is prudent and reasonable (as would be the display of dental hygiene educational degree). Thirty-three other states require display of dental hygiene license to practice as a minimal public safety standard. **IN THE INTEREST OF PUBLIC SAFETY, THIS SHOULD TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY!** Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Diane Brucato-Thomas, RDH, EF, BS, FAADH
President, American Academy of Dental Hygiene, 2010-12
Past President, Hawai'i Dental Hygienists' Association, 2009
First Recipient, ADHA Master Clinician Award 2008
First Recipients, RDH Sunstar Award of Distinction, 2002
HDHA Outstanding Member 1999, 2003; Dedicated Member 2008, 2011
Former Anesthesia Examiner, Western Regional Examining Board, 1990-1993
Founder, Hawai'i Institute for Wellness in Dentistry, 1994-2004

Testimony for SB2013 on 3/29/2012 2:35:00 PM

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 7:18 PM

To: CPCtestimony

Cc: sierraspruce@gmail.com

Testimony for CPC 3/29/2012 2:35:00 PM SB2013

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Sierra Spruce
Organization: Individual
E-mail: sierraspruce@gmail.com
Submitted on: 3/26/2012

Comments:

Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
3/29/12 Rm 325 2:35 PM

Chair Representative Robert Herkes
Vice Chair Ryan Yamane
Members of the CPC Committee

I support SB 2013 SD1 HD1
requiring dental hygienists to display their state license in the offices they
practice in. Also having the wallet card available to employers to show that the
license is current. The public deserves to know that the person treating their needs
is a licensed hygienist.

I would suggest that this measure, when passed, becomes law
immediately--NOT in 2050.

Mahalo,
Sierra Spruce, RDH
POB 6697
Ocean View, HI 96737



American
Dental
Hygienists'
Association

Representative Robert Herkes, Chair
Representative Ryan Yamane, Vice Chair
Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Jill Rethman, RDH, BA
President - Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Support for S.B. 2013, SD1, HB1 Relating to Dental Hygienists

The Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association (HDHA) is the organization representing dental hygiene professionals in the state of Hawaii, and is a constituent of the American Dental Hygienists' Association. We strongly support SB 2013, SD1, HB1 Relating to Dental Hygienists, which would require that dental hygienists practicing in Hawaii prominently display the dental hygiene license in the office where she or he practices or is employed. If the dental hygienist works in more than one setting, a copy of the license is acceptable. Furthermore, the dental hygienist should have the pocket identification card available for viewing to ensure the license is up-to-date.

The purpose of this Bill is to assure consumers that a licensed dental hygiene practitioner is indeed providing dental hygiene services. Therefore, for the health and safety of the public it's important that the dental hygiene license is prominently displayed at all times. Furthermore, HDHA respectfully suggests that the effective date of implementation be adjusted to reflect immediate enactment at passage of SB 2013, SD1, HB1. Hawaii consumers deserve the immediate protection and assurance this Bill would provide.

Thirty-two states already mandate that a dental hygiene license be prominently displayed in the office. Hawaii can further ensure that its people are receiving optimum care by instituting this requirement as well.

Thanks for all you do to protect the health of Hawaii's people, and thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify.

Testimony for SB2013 on 3/29/2012 2:35:00 PM

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 9:52 AM

To: CPCtestimony

Cc: melissaishii@hotmail.com

Testimony for CPC 3/29/2012 2:35:00 PM SB2013

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Melissa Ishii
Organization: Individual
E-mail: melissaishii@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 3/26/2012

Comments:

I feel it is vital to the protection of the public that the bill be enacted immediately.

Testimony for SB2013 on 3/29/2012 2:35:00 PM

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 11:21 AM

To: CPCtestimony

Cc: virginia.wiggins@med.navy.mil

Testimony for CPC 3/29/2012 2:35:00 PM SB2013

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Virginia Lynne Wiggins

Organization: Individual

E-mail: virginia.wiggins@med.navy.mil

Submitted on: 3/26/2012

Comments:

I strongly support SB2012

March 28, 2012

House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
Rep Robert N. Herkes, Chair, and Vice-Chair Rep Ryan I. Yamane
Re: SB2013, SD1, HD1

Dear Representative Herkes and Yamane,

As a practicing Hawaii dental hygienist, I am writing in support of measure SB 2013, SD1 Relating to Dental Hygienists, which would require that dental hygienists practicing in Hawaii prominently display the dental hygiene license in the office where she or he practices or is employed. I believe the intent of the measure is without flaw, however, it is vital to the protection of the public that the bill be enacted immediately, not the present effective date of 2050.

Thank you for your hard work on this measure and I appreciate you considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Kelley-Miyashiro, RDH, BS