

SB 2013

Measure Title: RELATING TO DENTAL HYGIENISTS.

Report Title: Dental Hygienists; Display of License

Description: Requires a dental hygienist license to be prominently displayed at all times in the office where the dental hygienist is employed or practices.

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: CPN

Introducer(s): BAKER, Chun Oakland, Espero, Fukunaga, Galuteria, Green, Ihara, Solomon, Wakai

Sort by Date		Status Text
1/18/2012	S	Introduced.
1/18/2012	S	Passed First Reading.
1/18/2012	S	Referred to CPN.
1/27/2012	S	The committee(s) on CPN has scheduled a public hearing on 02-07-12 9:30AM in conference room 229.

**PRESENTATION OF THE
BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS**

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

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

**Tuesday, February 7, 2012
9:30 a.m.**

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 2013, RELATING TO DENTAL HYGIENISTS.

**TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, 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, Relating to Dental Hygienists, with comments.

The purpose of Senate Bill No. 2013 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.

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It is unclear if the intent is to require displaying the original Certificate of License in the office, but the Committee should be aware that there are many dental hygienists who are employed in more than one dental office. Therefore, displaying a copy of the Certificate of License would be more practical.

Moreover, a Certificate of License signifies that the dental hygienist received a license in the State of Hawaii. However, it does not reflect whether the license is current or not. In addition to the Certificate of License, a dental hygienist is issued a pocket I.D. card at initial licensure and renewal thereafter to indicate the expiration date of the license. Also, the pocket I.D. card reflects any special privileges, such as intra-oral infiltration and intra-oral block anesthesia, that a dental hygienist has qualified to perform. Therefore, the Committee may wish to consider requiring that the pocket I.D. card be displayed.

Furthermore, please be aware that prominently displaying the license of the dentist in the office is not required. Therefore, the Committee may wish to consider having the same requirements for a dentist based on the reasons cited above.

For your information, the companion bill House Bill No. 1876 was heard in the House Committee on Health and passed out with amendments. Although we have not seen the amendments to the bill, Representative Yamane indicated that the amendment would allow for a copy of a license to be displayed in the dental office.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 2013.

Re: S.B. 2013
Committee: Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Hearing Date: February 7, 2012
Time: 9:00 am
Room: Conference Room 229
Number of copies needed:

Dear Honorable Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair; Honorable Senator Brian Tanaguchi, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee:

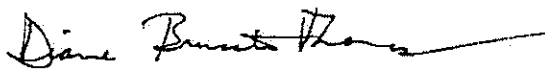
This testimony is **in support of S.B. 2013**, which would require dental hygienists, in Hawaii, to prominently display their license to practice, at all times, in every office in which they are employed to practice.

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. 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



American
Dental
Hygienists'
Association

Hawaii

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

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

Tuesday, February 7, 2012

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

The Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association 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 S.B. 2013 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.

A dental hygienist is an educated oral healthcare professional who receives licensure after successfully completing an accredited dental hygiene program and passing the National Board Examination in Dental Hygiene, as well as a clinical board exam. Accredited dental hygiene programs require an average of 2,910 clock hours of curriculum. This includes 654 clock hours of supervised clinical dental hygiene instruction. A dental hygienist is licensed to perform specific oral healthcare duties, such as debridement (i.e. tooth cleaning and polishing) procedures and is trained in such duties. Therefore, for the health and safety of the public it's important that patients know a licensed dental hygienist is providing their dental hygiene services.

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 CPN 2/7/2012 9:30:00 AM SB2013

Conference room: 229

Testifier position: Support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Mary Jane Tavera-Takemoto RDH

Organization: Individual

E-mail: dtmjtulua@hawaii.rr.com

Submitted on: 2/2/2012

Comments:

I strongly agree sb 2013 to place certificate in Dental offices. Mahalo!

Testimony for CPN 2/7/2012 9:30:00 AM SB2013

Conference room: 229

Testifier position: Support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Virginia Lynne Wiggins

Organization: Individual

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

Submitted on: 2/2/2012

Comments:

I strongly support SB2013!

Testimony for CPN 2/7/2012 9:30:00 AM SB2013

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Melissa
Organization: Individual
E-mail: melissa.ishii@med.navy.mil
Submitted on: 2/2/2012

Comments:

Testimony for CPN 2/7/2012 9:30:00 AM SB2013

Conference room: 229

Testifier position: Support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Gayle Rubino

Organization: Individual

E-mail: gaylerubino@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 2/2/2012

Comments:

I strongly support SB2013 requiring dental hygienists to display their licenses in their place of practice. I would like to see the original license that is usually framed and also a copy of the pocket-size license that indicates the license is current. Patients need to know that the person treating them is a licensed professional.

Testimony for CPN 2/7/2012 9:30:00 AM SB2013

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Giacinto Rubino
Organization: Individual
E-mail: gfrubino@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2012

Comments:

I support SB2013 that will require dental hygienists to display their licenses in their place of practice. I want patients to know that the treatment they are receiving is from a licensed professional.

Testimony for CPN 2/7/2012 9:30:00 AM SB2013

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Shana Cooney
Organization: Individual
E-mail: creativeeventsetc@msn.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2012

Comments:

I strongly support SB 2013 to require dental hygienists to display their licenses where they work. I want to know that the person cleaning my teeth has been educated and licensed to perform those duties.

Testimony for CPN 2/7/2012 9:30:00 AM SB2013

Conference room: 229

Testifier position: Support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Laura A. Mallery-Sayre, RDH, MSDHED

Organization: Individual

E-mail: mallerysayre@hawaii.rr.com

Submitted on: 2/2/2012

Comments:

I speak strongly in favor of SB2013. It is imperative for the public's safety that the are made aware that only a licensed dental hygienist is providing dental hygiene care for the. Having a requirement that mandates the display of this license will help to ensure that no one other than a dental hygienist is providing this vital care.

Testimony for CPN 2/7/2012 9:30:00 AM SB2013

Conference room: 229

Testifier position: Support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Katherine H. Fukushima

Organization: Individual

E-mail: katherine.fukushima.ctr@med.navy.mil

Submitted on: 2/3/2012

Comments:

I support SB 2013.