

Testimony

Good afternoon Chairman Gonzales, Vice Chairman Taylor and members of the Sunset Advisory Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide brief testimony today.

My name is Dr. Bernado Castaneda. I am a Dentist and serve as the Dental Assistant Program Director for the College of Health Care Professions. We have campuses in Austin, Dallas and Fort Worth, two campuses in Northwest and Southwest Houston, McAllen and San Antonio.

I would like to provide a brief statement discouraging the adoption of Item 2 in the State Board of Dental Examiners Report, related to the continuance of the Dental Assistant Certificate Program.

A workable solution or better way to address the concern (that the regulatory program wastes licensing and legal resources and diverts board and staff focus...) could be to align the certificate programs to roll over at the same time.

Such a solution could address the cumbersome process for several licenses and or certificates within the same office being renewed throughout the year. Perhaps the solution is to calibrate the renewals at one time and not get rid of the license requirement for the sake of health and safety concerns. Additionally, there are liability issues to be considered as well.

Crafting a solution, instead of eliminating the license requirement and risking health and safety. Removal of certain license and certificate requirements of occupational roles in our state are often debated, but those dealing with health and safety should be treated very differently.

Thank you again for the opportunity to participate in the Sunset Commission process.