

Eloise B. Frye

April 12, 2016

Ms. Allenworth
State Board of Dental Examiners
333 Guadalupe, Towers 3, Suite 800
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Ms. Allensworth,

I am writing in response to the Commission's report to the State Board of Dental Examiners (SBDE).

My career started with classroom instructions to become a dental assistant and a registered dental hygienist over forty years ago. I have used my learned skills in dental health care as: a clinician in the private sector, clinician and educator in the public health sector, and as a dental assistant instructor.

I am not in favor of abolishing Registration or Certifications for dental assistants. The education and training that a dental assistant receive is important. I believe that core classroom courses, such as, *Infection Control, and Radiology* are courses that must be taught to keep the overall public health of the community safe.

The possibility of cross contamination of infectious diseases and over exposure of radiation to chair side patients, employees, and the community are high risk concerns for all of us in healthcare.

It is necessary for all caregivers to be aware of professional and legal regulations in the work place. Students in dental assistants' classes are taught the SBDE rules and policies, trained in monitoring nitrous oxide, educated in recognizing the signs and symptoms of patients in distress, and how to respond to these concerns.

Please, consider the responsibilities and support to the overall health communities that Registered/Certified Dental Assistants provide to dental health care in our state.

I ask your reconsideration **to not abolish** the Registration/Certification Dental Assistants.

Respectfully submitted,

Eloise Frye, RDH