

In response to the Sunset Advisory Commission Staff Report on the State Board of Dental Examiners on Issue 5 dealing with the continuing need for the State Board of Dental Examiners, please allow me to comment.

Yes, regulating the practice of dentistry and supporting functions continues to support the state's interest in protecting the public! Please be aware that "Regulatory Capture" is occurring with the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners. Regulatory Capture is a form of political corruption that occurs when a regulatory agency, created to act in the public interest, instead advances the commercial or political concerns of special interest groups that dominate the industry or sector it is charged with regulating. Regulatory capture is a form of government failure; it creates an opening for firms or political groups to behave in ways injurious to the public. Regulatory capture is a theory associated with George Stigler, a Nobel laureate economist. The Dental Support Organizations (DSO) are trying to capture the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners.

I am concerned about the dental welfare of the citizens of Texas because the DSO industry is unregulated in Texas. The Texas statutes and case law say these DSO management companies are practicing dentistry without a license. No Texas agency will do any enforcement.

Respectfully submitted,

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