

From: [Anne R. Allensworth](#)
To: [Joe Walraven](#); [Julie Davis](#); [Dawn Roberson](#)
Subject: Fwd: Sensem Review of Dental Assistants
Date: Monday, April 18, 2016 10:45:49 AM

From: Kathy Simek <
Date: April 18, 2016 at 10:26:06 AM CDT
To: "Anne.allensworth@sunset.texas.gov" <anne.allensworth@sunset.texas.gov>
Subject: Sensem Review of Dental Assistants

April 18, 2016

Ms. Allensworth-

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

I have been a dental assistant for over 30 years and I am a registered dental assistant(RDA). **I am not in favor of abolishing registration or certifications for dental assistants.** I believe that taking the importance of these away will be worse for the dental offices and clinics as education in infection control is very important to protect patients, the dentist and staff and without this could cause harm to many because of cross contamination.

Without some expertise in radiology(and radiation) a dental assistant would not realize that overexposure to a patient or office member could occur.
It really is necessary for dental assistants to know state laws and TSBDE rules. In nitrous monitoring, a dental assistant would not know the signs and symptoms to recognize a patient in distress and/or how to react.

I have been through national certification, state certification and all stages in between and do believe that our Texas dental assistants are so much more knowledgable because of the importance we have had on registrations and certifications and I believe wholeheartedly that they should continue to be registered and have certifications and have to get continuing education hours to keep up with new rules and regulations and new ways to do things. If this is taken away, we will have dental assistants that do not have the knowledge to take care of dental patients, and I do not think the public or the dentists want this for themselves and/or for the patients. I know as a patient, I would not!!

Please do not take away our certifications and registration!! I would be happy to come talk to the board or anyone else about why I believe this is so important.

Respectfully submitted-

Kathy Simek