

Anne Allensworth
P.O. Box 13066
Austin, TX 78711
Anne.allensworth@sunset.texas.gov

Dear Ms. Allensworth,

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

I have been a Registered Dental Assistant for 7 years.

I am **NOT** in favor of abolishing Registration or Certifications for Dental Assistants!

Education in Infection control is crucial for the safety of the patients, the paraprofessionals like myself, the Doctors, the Hygienists and the administrative staff. The lack of proper education in infection control and sterilization techniques could lead to the spread of infection and diseases. These infections and diseases could be further spread outside of the dental office as well.

No education and licensing for proper use and handling of the Radiation equipment could lead to overexposure to patients, I find this extremely important when treating patients who are pregnant, the risk to these patients and their unborn children is high, and they have the right to be protected, as does the assistant administering the radiation.

I am personally not licensed in Nitrous Oxide monitoring and I have never been left alone with a patient receiving nitrous oxide, because the Doctors I have worked under know the risks of me not being trained and licensed, this monitoring and knowing the signs of distress is crucial to the safety of the patients.

I am an active member with the American Dental Assistant Association, being a member provides me with \$50,000 worth of liability insurance, as I am liable for my actions in the dental office, with this being said, I should have access to proper training and education in these procedures, the public trusts that I have had this training and that they are safe when under my care.

I hope the concerns of Registered Dental Assistants is taken in consideration, patient care has always been my number one concern, and as a mom, my safety is extremely important to me as well.

Respectfully submitted,
Tiffany Taylor, RDA
Tiffany.taylor4@austincc.edu