

NEVADA STATE BOARD
of
DENTAL EXAMINERS



BOARD TELECONFERENCE MEETING

SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

6:00 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENT BOOK

Public Comment:

Lancette VanGuilder, RDH, BS, Legislative Chair
Nevada Dental Hygienists Association (NDHA)

September 20,2021

TO: Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners

FROM: Nevada Dental Hygienists Association (NDHA)

RE: Board agenda for September 21, 2021, Agenda Item 7 (c)

The NDHA would like to go on record that the process of drafting language to implement dental therapy continues to be confusing and lacks transparency. The item (7 c) to be discussed at the meeting tomorrow does not have any attachments or supporting materials for the public to read to prepare comment for the discussion at hand.

The NDHA would like to request the board and committees to fully implement SB366 and allow for full scope of practice as was approved by the state legislature in 2019. It is critical that this board and committees fully understand the legislative intent and adopted bill language of SB366. Since NDHA requested the bill sponsor and contributed to the bill drafting/ language and lobbying, we would like to offer our group as a primary resource to provide input and guidance if questions remain on legislative intent as well as comparison to other state models and the dialogue that occurred between policy makers and associations. We have also offered the contact information from the Executive Director of the Minnesota State Board of Dentistry as a primary resource. The Minnesota Advanced Dental Therapist model is the state that mirrors the Nevada model the most. Dental Therapists have been licensed in Minnesota for over 12 years and this state has excelled at proving safety, effectiveness, licensing and tracking data collection. The Minnesota dental therapy students are educated alongside dental students and the program should gain CODA accreditation in the near future. We would like to point out that many states, like Alaska and Oregon, do not mirror the statues that Nevada passed in 2019. There seems to be continuing confusion on legislative intent of SB366 and the various dental therapy models that exist in the US. You can see in several pieces of Testimony that the Minnesota model was referenced throughout the entire 2019 legislative session.

The NDHA would like to request the dental board and committee members to familiarize themselves with the language that as adopted in SB366 as conversations continue and rules and regulations are discussed. The NDHA will continue to advocate for full implementation of SB 366, a reasonable licensure fee (\$200 or less) since dual license is required and 36 biennial CE credits required.

It continues to be disheartening that 27 months after passing, SB366 has yet to be implemented. We are hopeful that conversations continue to move forward in a manner that allows the public to fully prepare and participate and that the concerns of NDHA be taken into consideration.

Lancette VanGuilder, RDH, BS

NDHA Legislative Chair