Delta College

1961 Delta Road • University Center, MI 48710
989-686-9000 • www.delta.edu

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Greetings Chairwoman Haines and Members of the Committee:

My name is Virginia Przygocki; I have been a Michigan licensed dental hygienist for thirty four years. Currently I am employed at Delta College, serving as the Dean of Career Education and Learning Partnerships. I am asking that my testimony be read today in my absence of this hearing. I support the pending substitute for HB 4718 which will allow an assistant to provide assistance to a dental hygienist from two perspectives.

I greatly respect and value the role of a dental assistant in the improvement of dental and dental hygiene services through increasing efficiency and quality. This occurs because the "2nd pair hands" provides a dry, therefore more visible and easier field to provide care (without an increase in the scope of practice). This will allow for a procedure to be completed at a higher quality in less time, allowing for more patients to be seen. With the time to see more patients, access to care will be increased in Michigan. This bill will not only allow more access to care in private practice, but also in clinics operating under PA 161.

Another perceptive is increasing the employment opportunities of the dental assistant. This would create more jobs for dental assistants in clinics operating under PA 161. There are over 50 clinics that could possibly employ at least one (maybe more) dental assistant per clinic.

The table below taken from the Career One Stop Department of Labor internet site lists the income information for a dental assistant in Michigan.

http://www.careerinfonet.org/occ_rep.asp?optstatus=011000000&soccode=319091&id=1&nodeid=2&stfips=26&search=Go

Location	Pay Period	2010				
		10%	25%	Median	75%	90%
United States	Hourly	$10.90	$13.16	$16.09	$19.19	$22.64
	Yearly	$22,700	$27,400	$33,500	$39,900	$47,100
Michigan	Hourly	$11.87	$13.48	$15.90	$18.19	$21.22
	Yearly	$24,700	$28,000	$33,100	$37,800	$44,100

In conclusion, please support this bill for 2nd pair of hands because it will:

- Increase access to care
- Improve care while reduce cost
- Increase and diversify workforce development.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ginny Przygocki

Ginny Przygocki
Dean of Career Education and Learning Partnerships
B-130 Delta College
Office phone: 989-686-9276