

As a professional educator and Dean of Workforce Development and Continuing Education for Tunxis Community College, I would like to thank the Public Health Committee for raising House Bill 5630. The legislation for advanced credentialing as Expanded Functions for Dental Assistants and Dental Hygienists will foster the delivery of oral health care in Connecticut.

With Bill No. 5630 comes the need for additional Continuing Education. Tunxis Community College, Division of Workforce Development and Continuing Education stands ready to work with the Dental community to develop timely, relevant and pertinent curriculum to meet the emerging needs as specified under House Hill 5630. This will require constituents working together to develop an EFDA educational program with no costs being passed to the college; yet, to improve access to oral health. Constituents have pledged their commitments to working together to foster this important collaboration.

We respectfully request the Members of the Public Health Committee support Bill No. 5630 so our Dental Assistants and Dental Hygienists can continue to work together in our efforts to address the access to our health care disparity. here are approximately 450 DANB Certified Dental Assistants in Connecticut that would immediately qualify for advanced credentialing as Expanded Functions Dental Assistants to provide needed dental services to the underserved.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of House Bill 5630.

Sincerely,

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