

Testimony by: Susan Miklos, EFDA, RDH

March 2, 2009

Re: Raised Bill 5630

Dear Senator Jonathan Harris, Representative Betsy Harris
and the members of the Public Health Committee:

My name is Susan Miklos and I am a licensed registered dental hygienist practicing in the state of Connecticut. I represent my patients and their parents supporting the Raised Bill 5630 an Act concerning the Establishment of an Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner. (ADHP).

A dental hygienist is a professional who is educated extensively in a specified skill regarding oral tissues and structures. Our job is to encourage and educate proper care of the mouth. The ADHP is a Masters level practitioner to open the scope of the dental hygienist to the level of a nurse practitioner. Most of my patients (85%), are enrolled in the Husky program and every six months they come to the office looking for me for their check up. The friendly but professional relationship encourages these families to return for their check up appointments. The hygienist is a familiar face that the child sees twice a year. We see infection, inflammation due to gingivitis and at times pathology or abscess that require antibiotic. It could be an asset to those in need for the dental hygienist to be able to write a script for antibiotic and Motrin under the direction of the doctor, when the Dr. is not in the office. With the amount of people enrolling into the Husky plan, I fear there will be a need for more practitioners to facilitate this increase and the ADHP is just the answer. Please consider Raised Bill 5630.

Thank You,

Susan Miklos, EFDA RDH
NHDHA President
CDHA Secretary