

Submitted by: Terra Lorraine Smith
272 Plaza Drive
Middletown, CT 06457
(860) 343-0315

Testimony to: Senator Jonathan Harris, Representative Betsy Ritter
and the Public Health Committee members.

In Support of: Raised Bill 5630

March 4, 2009

Sen. Harris, Rep. Ritter and members of the Committee:

My name is Terra Smith. I have been disabled since 2004 and I live on less than \$10,000 a year. I represent the poor and disabled who have Title 19 insurance and who depend upon good dental care from local dental clinics.

My experience of these clinics has been mixed so far. Some appointments have been obtained in a timely manner, and some appointments and care has been less than adequate because of limited staff. I have been in pain for weeks at a time before I could get my teeth checked, and I've had to have 3 teeth pulled because my clinician has had neither the time nor the staff to accommodate my needs.

I think that the idea of having Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioners in these clinics would only help the overwhelmed dentists with their heavy loads.

Having Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioners in my dental clinic would make my life easier and more pain-free.

I am in support of Raised Bill 5630, the Act Concerning the Establishment of an Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner (ADAP).

Please consider passing this act on behalf of those like me who are in the greatest need.

Sincerely,

Terra Lorraine Smith

Terra Lorraine Smith
272 Plaza Drive
Middletown, CT 06457
(860) 343-0315