



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE March 16, 2009

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House Bill 5630 - An Act Concerning the Establishment of Licensure for an Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner

The Department of Public Health opposes House Bill 5630.

- House Bill 5630 would recognize four classifications for dental assistants, who would practice under the supervision of a licensed dentist or a licensed advanced practice dental hygienist.
- The bill mandates minimum education, training and examination requirements for each of these levels and would require the Department, in consultation with the State Dental Commission, to establish regulations to identify the types of procedures that may be performed by each dental assistant classification and the levels of supervision required for such procedures.
- House Bill 5630 would also require the Department to establish a new licensing program for Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioners.
- Development and implementation of a new licensing program would have **significant fiscal impact** on the Department, as it could not be accomplished within existing resources.
- The Department does not support the bill at this time, as the Governor's budget does not provide resources for this purpose.
- Should this proposal move forward, the Department respectfully requests the opportunity to work with the Committee to address additional concerns regarding the proposed language.

Thank you for your consideration of the Department's views on this bill.

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