

Letter of Support to the Human Services Committee

Regarding: Proposed H.B. No. 5616 AN ACT CONCERNING LICENSURE OF ADVANCED DENTAL HYGIENE PRACTITIONERS

February 28, 2011

Submitted by: Bernadette Baranowski, RDH, BS

Dear Senator Musto, Representative Tercyak and members of the Human Services Committee,

My name is Bernadette Baranowski and I am a licensed, registered dental hygienist living in Sandy Hook, CT. I have practiced for many years in a periodontal dental office. I have also been a clinical instructor at both the University of Bridgeport's Fones School of Dental Hygiene and University of New Haven's Dental Hygiene Programs.

I support the Establishment of An Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner (ADHP). The need has been documented across the country. I believe the Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner (ADHP) will provide a safe and cost effective workforce model built on a licensed professional, the Registered Dental Hygienist. The ADHP will provide services in Public Health settings like school and community locations, eliminating many barriers to care. Also, by decreasing barriers to care, it will increase access to oral health care for many. In this economic time, this will help Connecticut and its citizens.

In closing, I would be happy to discuss HB 5616 with you and hope the citizens of Connecticut can expect your support in delivering more access to dental health care by passing a bill in support of the Establishment of An Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner (ADHP).

Sincerely,

Bernadette Baranowski, RDH

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