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"Testimony HB 5616"

**Testimony for Proposed H.B. No. 5616 AN ACT CONCERNING LICENSURE OF  
ADVANCED DENTAL HYGIENE PRACTITIONERS.**

February 27, 2011

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

My name is Olga Brown and I am the Director of Nursing with the City of Stamford. I  
oversee the city's nursing and dental health services.

I am writing in support of Proposed House Bill No.5616, An Act Concerning Licensure  
of Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioners.

Connecticut is renowned as the pioneer in dental disease prevention.

I can speak to the unmet dental needs in our community. There is a need to expand the  
educational as well as practice opportunities of candidates interested in advancing this  
profession. The prerequisite for ADHP is a RDH, BS, which means this model is built on  
a licensed health professional. The ADHP will provide preventive services and early  
intervention with treatment options; thus preventing more serious disease and more costly  
treatments such as emergency room visits. An advanced dental hygiene practitioner is a  
cost effective way to provide services. In their current practice, dental hygienists  
constantly interface with medical and dental personnel to address the total health of their  
patients. We would like to support further education that will enhance their ability to  
provide expanded access to care.

Sincerely yours,

Olga M. Brown, BSN, MPH, MA

Director of Nursing Services, City of Stamford,

Department of Health and Social Services