

## HB 993

To the Committee Members:

I would like to submit testimony in favor of Raised Bill 993, the Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary. It is a bill whose time is long overdue. Several states in the country have had this position for several years. Having qualified dental assistants perform procedures *under the direct supervision of a dentist* will greatly enhance access to care. I would like to add that EFDAs be allowed, as they are in other states, to place sealants. Sealants are a preventative treatment that coats (or seals) the posterior teeth, and when well placed, diminish the incidence of cavities on the chewing surfaces of posterior teeth. This procedure, when performed in a public health setting and to the underserved population enhances the health of posterior teeth, which are vital to chewing food. There is no drilling involved with this procedure; the diagnosis would be made by the dentist and the preventive nature of this procedure is vital to preserving the health of the posterior teeth, as many cavities begin on the chewing surface of posterior teeth.

Thank-you for the opportunity to express my views.

Stephanie Urillo, DDS

Southington CT