

**Legislative Testimony**  
**Public Health Committee**  
**HB 6275 AAC An Act Concerning Certification of Advanced Hygiene**  
**Dental Practitioners**  
**Wednesday, March 11, 2015**  
**Stacy Gorman, RDH**

Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and members of the Public Health Committee, my name is Stacy Gorman, RDH. My volunteer service to the citizens of our state includes GKAS. I am here to testify against of House Bill 6275 an Act Concerning Certification of Advanced Hygiene Dental Practitioners.

I received my hygiene education at Tunxis Community College, where I graduated with the Golden Scaler award, given to the student most outstanding with clinical skills in my class. Prior to that, I was awarded my certificate in Dental Assisting, again from Tunxis Community College. This school provided me with a great education in both disciplines.

I now work in a general dental office. Working closely with the dentist on a daily basis enables me to provide a close collaborative relationship with the dentist with regards to comprehensive treatment for each and every patient we see. Oftentimes, patients will tell me, as the hygienist, something they would not say to the dentist directly. The dentist can then, after a conversation with me, discuss with the patient the most appropriate method to treat this patient and their situation. Fragmenting this team approach to treating a patient by allowing a hygienist independent practice, and without that hygienist having a full complement of clinical and didactic skills, crumples the structure of what should be a complete and comprehensive set of treatment skills for that patient. I am only speaking of patient treatment. Other items to consider are overhead, compensation and the ability I have as a hygienist with my set of skills to comprehensively treat that patient in an independent setting. It is not as in depth as a dental school education. In addition, I have not yet seen a curriculum for this type of education. If it is not yet formatted, then this will cost the state money to implement it. There is no regulatory agency to oversee this position. All this will cost the state much money, and in a year with such a large deficit, this is not cost effective. The primary goal is patient treatment and patient safety and this is not the method to accomplish this.

I would like to thank-you for your time and sincerely hope that you will vote against House Bill 6275.

Respectfully Submitted,

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