

**Legislative Testimony
Public Health Committee
HB 6814 AAC Dental Assistants and Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary
Wednesday, March 11, 2015
Rebecca Brown, CDA**

Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and members of the Public Health Committee, my name is Rebecca Brown. I have been a certified dental assistant Wolcott and Southington for 20 years. My volunteer service to the citizens of our state includes educating elementary school students for Children's Dental Health Month. I am here to testify in favor of House Bill 6814 An Act Concerning Dental Assistants and Expanded Function Dental Auxiliaries.

I was educated at Briarwood College (now Lincoln College) where I received a certificate in Dental Assisting, completing a one year program. I have maintained my certification on a yearly basis by completing mandated continuing education credits (12 per year). I have worked for the last 10 years assisting with general dentistry. I feel that with the expansion of the scope of what I am allowed to perform will greatly increase patient flow in that my dentist will be able to see more patients. It also keeps the dental team together, as we all work together as one cohesive unit. Because I, on a yearly basis, maintain my certification, I continually bring new methodology to the office so that through newer technology and newer processes, patients will be treated in a very efficient manner. Dental assistants are very important to the practicing dentist, no matter what the specialty (I used to work as a surgical assistant to oral surgeons), as we work hard to maintain the flow of the office so patients are seen on time; the situation can be assessed through conversation with the patient and through conversation with the dentist, appropriate steps are taken by the assistant so when the dentist comes into the operatory, treatment can begin. That is, radiographs are taken, background information is given, as an example. In an emergency situation, my assistance is invaluable to the dentist. Quality of care is paramount when treating patients.

I would like to thank-you for your time and sincerely hope that you will support House Bill 6814.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca Brown, CDA

360-15 North Main Street

Southington, CT 06489

saurillodds@sbcglobal.net