



CHARLES A. DORING, D.D.S., F.A.G.D.  
CLEMENTINA PEREZ-WEST, D.D.S.  
ROBERT B. TILKIN, D.D.S., M.S., F.A.G.D.

Testimony in Support of SB 808 – Health Occupations – Licensed Dentists – Administration of Vaccines

Tuesday March 2, 2021

Maryland Senate Health Education & Environmental Affairs Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written today in support of SB 808. My name is Charles Doring and I a general dentist in Rockville Maryland. Along with providing dental care in an office setting, I also provide portable dentistry and I am on the medical staff of several nursing homes in Montgomery County. I am also the Legislative Affairs Committee Chair for the Maryland State Dental Association, the Maryland component of the American Dental Association. I was also recently named to the Provider Advisory Committee of the Maryland Health Smiles (Medicaid) program. I am also a member of the Deans Faculty at our dental school, the University of Maryland School of Dentistry (UMSOD) in the Department of General Dentistry with a dental student externship in Geriatric Dentistry.

I, along with the Maryland State Dental Association strongly urge your enthusiastic support for SB 808 for all the reasons listed below:

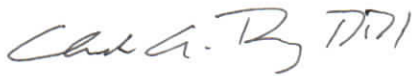
- 1) Administration of Vaccines is being taught at multiple dental school across the country including the University of Maryland School of Dentistry.
- 2) Definition of scope of dental practice in Maryland statute includes procedures taught at accredited US or Canadian dental schools. SB 808 allows the Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners to set the continuing education and certification requirements for existing licensed dentists to administer vaccines in Maryland.
- 3) Many Maryland licensed dentists have enrolled in the Maryland Reserve Medical Corp, have obtained training in administration of the COVID-19 Vaccine and await deployment as soon as the vaccine is readily available to local health departments.
- 4) Maryland dentists are required to maintain certification in infection control training, personal protective equipment, CPR, and are well trained in handling emergencies.
- 5) SB 808 has stringent vaccine training and reporting requirements for those Maryland licensed dentists who choose to administer vaccinations.
- 6) SB 808 contains the same post vaccination requirements including documentation to the ImmuNet Program as pharmacists.
- 7) The inclusion of dentist in vaccination programs will increase the ability to advocate for vaccinations and administer vaccinations to population of Marylanders that may not typically receive vaccinations including minorities and individuals in remote locations.

8) Marylanders tend to visit their oral health professional twice a year which may be more than other health care providers. During these visits, dentist review patient's health history, screen for chronic diseases, inquire about vaccinations, and administer vaccinations if requested and required.

9) Dentist have special training to help phobic patients particularly as it relates to needles. Dentists provide more injections than most other health occupations.

For these reasons noted above, I ask for a favorable report on SB 808.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charles A. Doring DDS". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "C" and "D".

Charles A. Doring DDS