



Written Testimony of Dr. Stephen Dargan
President, Maryland State Dental Association
In Support of SB 714

Members of the Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee,

I am Stephen Dargan, DDS, a general practice dentist of 44 years in Prince Frederick, and current president of the Maryland State Dental Association.

I am in support of SB 714, both as an individual and as president of the MSDA, for all of the reasons in the testimony of our lobbyist, Dan Doherty.

I emphasize the facts that passage of SB 714 will safely allow expanded duties of dental assistants that will increase efficiencies in dental offices, allowing more patients to be treated and reducing one barrier for access to care. In addition, these duties make dental assisting more attractive as a career, with the possibility of reducing staff shortages.

These expanded function duties have been vetted by an ad hoc committee of the MSDA after diligent investigation of the safety of these duties being performed by assistants who are certified after appropriate training.

I therefore ask that SB 714 receive a favorable report.

Stephen M Dargan DDS
President, Maryland State Dental Association