

Final SB 749 pdf.pdf

Uploaded by: Charles Doring

Position: FAV



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DIPLOMATE AMERICAN BOARD OF
DENTAL SLEEP MEDICINE

SB 749 Favorable

(CF HB 723)

Written Testimony in Support of SB 749

From Charles A. Doring DDS

A Maryland Healthy Smiles (Dental Medicaid) Provider

(Submitted 2/21/2025 for hearing 2/21/2025)

Dear Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of SB 749. I am a general dentist in a small group practice in Rockville that employs a team of 15 dental health providers and support staff. I am also the president-elect of the Maryland State Dental Association (MSDA) as well as a Dean's Faculty member at our University of Maryland School of Dentistry. I was a member of the 2022 Maryland Legislative Oral Health Care Task Force charged with finding solutions to dental health care disparities. I am speaking to you as an individual and Dental Medicaid provider to you today.

There have been occasions when Maryland Licensed Dentists and Dental Hygienists need urgent coverage to provide patient care in cases of maternity, emergency medical, or family leave. Dental practitioners may call on fellow practitioners across jurisdictions to assist in providing coverage for their office. To apply for an expedited license under this proposal, the practitioners will have to meet all the Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners requirements for licensure in Maryland that currently exist. It should be noted, a similar expedited licensure process by the Dental Board has already been in existence for some time for military and their spouses. Expedited licensure allows that dental office down time is minimized and quality patient dental care can continue with minimal interruption.

Like many health occupations, dentistry has experienced an axillary workforce shortage that has never recovered since COVID-19. Dental Radiation Technologists (DRT) play a vital role in patient care and safety. DRT's, are certified by the Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners after completing course work and testing by the Dental Assisting National Board. SB 749 would include DRT Certification in an expedited fashion. There have been reports of DRT's currently certified & practicing in Virginia waiting several months to become certified in Maryland.

Please do not confuse this legislation with several current bills dealing with "compacts". Health provider compacts are agreements between states with oversight by a "compact board" that may or may not have standards of licensure as high as our dental board. SB 749 is just a process for expedited licensure for dentists/dental hygienists and certification for Dental Radiation Technologists for those individuals who meet licensure/certification standards currently in place by the Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners.

For these reasons, I ask that SB 749 be given a favorable report.

Testimony in Support of SB 749 - Licensure by Cred

Uploaded by: Daniel Doherty

Position: FAV



**The Maryland State Dental Association Supports SB 749 – State Board of Dental
Examiners- Applicants Licensed or Certified in Another State**
Submitted by Daniel T. Doherty, Jr. on behalf of the Maryland State Dental Association

Frequently members of the Maryland State Dental Association (“MSDA”) encounter practice crises created when a partner or employee in the practice must take an extended leave of absence for various reasons. Illness of the employee or a family member, or a call to active military duty, for example. Filling this person’s role in the practice is problematic. The shortages in Maryland’s dental workforce makes it difficult, if not nearly impossible, to find a Maryland licensed dental hygienist, a certified dental radiation technologist, and to a lesser extent, a licensed dentist to replace the person on an extended absence. While still difficult, out-of-state dental personnel are easier to find, but to assure that they can receive a Maryland license or certification promptly is the issue.

Maryland does have provisions in its Maryland Dentistry Act that establish the requirements for licensing out-of-state dentists and dental hygienists. It is in essence “Licensure by Credentials”. However, there is no provision for “certification by credentials” for dental radiation technologists. Thus, SB 749 does the following:

(1) Requires that the Board approve or deny a completed application of an out-of-state applicant within 15 business days. It is true that the Board has stated on numerous occasions that it acts on these applications within 10 to 15 days, however, the Act does not require that the Board act quickly. Personnel and policies change over time, and the dental community should have statutory assurance of prompt action.

(2) SB 749 establishes a statutory provision for certification of out-of-state dental radiation technologists comparable to the licensure of out-of-state dentists and dental hygienists. It also requires that the Board approve or deny a completed application within 15 business days.

SB 749 will provide assistance for dental practices, especially for small dental practices, that face the need to fill the positions of dental personnel who must take long leaves of absence due to a variety of disruptive events in their lives. It will also assist these practices to continue providing continuity of care to their patients on a timely basis.

For these reasons the Maryland State Dental Association Requests that SB 749 receive a Favorable Report.

Daniel T. Doherty, Jr.
February 21, 2025

2025 sb 749.pdf

Uploaded by: Thomas a'Becket

Position: FAV

SUPPORT SB 749 State Board of Dental Examiners Applicants
Licensed/Certified in another State

Submitted By Dr Thomas R. a'Becket Legislative Chair Maryland State
Dental Association and Past President of Maryland State Dental
Association

Often times a crisis occurs within the dental work world and as a professional setting, it can be difficult to obtain quality replacements on short notice. This bill creates an expedited mechanism to allow qualified individuals to step in to provide the necessary care. This exists for dentists and dental hygienists via licensure by credentials but needs an expansion for the certification by credentials for the radiation technologists. In both cases, the bill requires the Board to approve or deny within 15 business days, which according to the Board is current practice.

This bill will streamline the process for licensure for dental practices facing acute shortages due to a variety of unforeseen circumstances.

I ask for a FAVORABLE REPORT on SB 749

Thank You Dr Thomas R. a'Becket

SB 749 - DENTAL - FIN - LOO.pdf

Uploaded by: State of Maryland (MD)

Position: UNF



Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners

Spring Grove Hospital Center - Benjamin Rush Bldg.
55 Wade Ave/Tulip Drive
Catonsville, MD 21228

February 25, 2025

The Honorable Pamela Beidle
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
3 East, Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Senate Bill 749 – State Board of Dental Examiners – Applicants Licensed or Certified in Another State – Dental Board – Letter of Opposition

Dear Chair Beidle and Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

The Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners respectfully submits this letter of opposition for Senate Bill 749 – State Board of Dental Examiners – Applicants Licensed or Certified in Another State. The bill concerns dentists and dental hygienists who are licensed in another state and who wish to obtain a Maryland license, as well as dental radiation technologists who are certified in another state and who wish to obtain certification in Maryland. With regard to dentists and dental hygienists licensed in another state the bill adds the following subsection to the Ann. Code of Maryland, § 4-306: **“(F) IF AN APPLICANT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE UNDER THIS SECTION, THE BOARD SHALL ISSUE THE LICENSE WITHIN 15 BUSINESS DAYS AFTER RECEIVING THE COMPLETED APPLICATION.”**

The Board believes that the language is unnecessary as the Board presently issues Maryland licenses to out-of-state dentists and dental hygienists well within 15 business days of receipt of the last qualifying document. If an applicant submits an application with missing or illegible documentation, the applicant is notified almost immediately so that the error or omission may be corrected.

With respect to dental radiation technologists, the bill provides that an out-of-state dental radiation technologist shall be certified in Maryland if they have satisfied the examination

requirements of certification in another state that the Dental Board determines is “comparable to the examination requirement in this State.” Further, the bill provides that the applicant would be disqualified for certification in Maryland if the applicant has failed an examination for certification in Maryland.

The Board believes that it would be very difficult for it to determine whether an examination administered in another state is “comparable” to the examination administered for Maryland certification. In Maryland, an in-state applicant must pass the Radiation Health and Safety Examination administered by the Dental Assisting National Board. The examination questions are not available to the Maryland Board. In addition, the Dental Board doubts that other states that administer their own dental radiation technologist examination would be willing to share the questions with the Dental Board. For obvious reasons doing so in both instances may jeopardize the integrity of the examinations. That said, if the Board were privy to examination questions, a question-by-question comparison would be necessary and difficult given the ultimate goal of determining if the two examinations were comparable. However, In the final determination, the Board believes that the current regulations regarding requirements for out-of-state dental radiation technologist are easily met and are very fair. An out-of-state dental radiation technologist may obtain certification in Maryland if they complete an application, pay the required fee, and have “engaged in practicing dental radiation technology for at least 150 hours in the 3 years preceding application for certification in Maryland[;].” Code of Maryland Regulations 10.44.19.03B(2). Essentially, the applicant need only practice dental radiation technology for a month within 3 years of applying for certification in Maryland. The requirement is easily satisfied.

I hope that this information is helpful. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact me at 202-997-2606 or chiyo.alie@maryland.gov.

The opinion of the Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners expressed in this letter of opposition does not necessarily reflect that of the Department of Health or the administration.

Sincerely,
Chiyo Alie, D.D.S.
Chiyo Alie, D.D.S.
Board President