

Testimony of Dr. William Leboe  
Before the House Government, Labor and Elections Committee  
In opposition to HB 420

As a veteran of the US Army Dental Corp serving at Ft. Campbell, KY and Walter Reed Army Medical Center in DC I understand the needs of our service members and their families as they relocate to new duty stations.

However, as a practicing dentist in the Federal Hill area of Baltimore City and as a former educator at the U of Maryland Dental School I know we must not bypass the well-established mechanism of our state dental Board to grant dental and dental hygiene licenses. This is the best way to assure Marylanders can have optimum oral health care by well qualified dental practitioners.

Allowing someone to practice dentistry in Maryland who has not been vetted by our state board and granted the appropriate license could have significant negative consequences. Every person who cares for our citizens should have a license granted by the appropriate governing Maryland board to ensure they have met all necessary requirements and are accountable to that board if the need arises.

I know the Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners takes their responsibilities very seriously and we must rely on their ability to control the licensing process. It would not be prudent to take that out of their hands.

There are mechanisms in place already to expedite granting a dental license to qualified individuals, so HB 420 is not necessary.