

**PRESENTATION OF THE
BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER
PROTECTION AND COMMERCE

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2011

Wednesday, February 23, 2011
2:05 p.m.

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 1053, RELATING TO NATIONAL DENTAL
HYGIENE EXAMINATIONS.**

TO THE HONORABLE ROBERT N. HERKES, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Jeffrey Miyazawa, D.D.S., Chair of the Board of Dental Examiners ("Board"). The Board appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 1053, Relating to National Dental Hygiene Examinations.

The purpose of House Bill No. 1053 is to specify in the statute that passage of the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination is a requirement for licensure as a dental hygienist in Hawaii. In addition, technical non-substantive amendments are also proposed.

The National Board Dental Hygiene Examination is a didactic examination developed and administered by the American Dental Association Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations and is required for licensure by all states. This examination is usually taken prior to graduation during a dental hygiene student's last year at an accredited dental hygiene school.

The National Board Dental Hygiene Examination is a pre-requisite requirement, similar to the requirement to be a graduate from an accredited dental hygiene school. It

is not the same type of examination and is a separate examination as provided in subsections 447-1(b) and (c). The examinations referenced in subsections 447-1(b) and (c) are clinical licensure examinations to primarily test an applicant's clinical skills in the practice of dental hygiene.

Although specified as a requirement for licensure as a dental hygienist in the Board's administrative rules, due to an oversight this provision was never enacted in the statute.

Therefore, this bill would enact in the statute and clearly provide statutory authority for the requirement to pass the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination for licensure of dental hygienists, similarly as required by all other states.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 1053.

Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association

February 22, 2011

COMMITTEE CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE

REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT HERKES, CHAIR

REPRESENTATIVE RYAN YAMANE, VICE CHAIR

DATE: WEDNESDAY 2/23/11

TIME: 2:00PM

PLACE: CONFERENCE ROOM 325

WRITTEN TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1053

To: The Honorable Rep. Robert Herkes, Chair, the Honorable Rep. Ryan Yamane, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee;

The Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association offers written testimony in support of HB 1053 which clarifies language in the Statute regarding the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination. The HDHA recognizes that this Examination is the standard written examination utilized by states in determining the didactic preparation for licensure. This Exam is currently utilized in Hawaii but the language in this Bill codifies it.

Many changes in the Dental Hygiene Examination and licensure process have taken place over the last several years regarding a National Standardized Clinical Exam as well. The language in this Bill clarifies and reflects the changes which have occurred.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer supportive testimony for HB 1053

Sierra Spruce, RDH
Regulation and Practice Chair
Past President HDHA
PO Box 6697 Ocean View, HI 96737



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**TESTIMONY ON H.B. 1053 - RELATING TO CONSUMER
PROTECTION.**

To The Honorable Robert N. Herkes, Chair, and Members of the
Committee, Aloha—

My name is Gayle Rubino, RDH, BA, MSDH, and I am the President of the
Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association.

**We are in SUPPORT of Bill HB 1053, as written, without
amendments**

I would like to thank the members of the Committee on Health for hearing this
testimony.

The National Board Dental Hygiene Examination is a comprehensive didactic
exam of a candidate's knowledge of the applied sciences relating to dental
hygiene and the reasoning ability of the candidate to evaluate case studies and
apply the dental hygiene process of care. This examination is a valid indicator of
a potential candidate's intellectual readiness for the practice of dental hygiene.

The American Dental Association, The American Dental Hygienists' Association,
the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations, and Dental Hygiene
programs throughout the United States are in agreement that candidates for
Dental Hygiene Licensure must successfully pass the National Board Dental
Hygiene Examination. The examination is generally taken shortly before the
student's matriculation from a dental hygiene program and prior to applying for a
clinical State or Regional Board Examination.



American
Dental
Hygienists'
Association

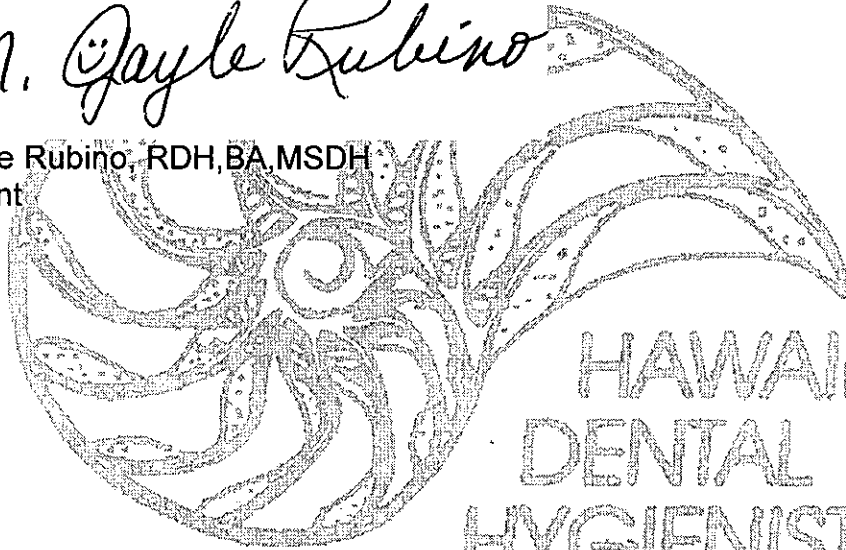
This bill would provide the statutory authority to require an applicant for dental hygiene licensure to have passed the National Board Dental Hygiene Exam, and would bring the Hawaii Administrative Rules into agreement with the Statutes.

Thank you for the opportunity for us to offer supportive testimony for HB1053.

Respectfully,

M. Gayle Rubino

M. Gayle Rubino, RDH, BA, MSDH
President



HAWAII
DENTAL
HYGIENISTS'
ASSOCIATION