

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO
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WRITTEN
TESTIMONY ONLY

**Testimony in SUPPORT of S.B. 162 S.D. 1
RELATING TO DENTISTRY LICENSES**

SENATOR JARRETT KEOHOKALOOLE, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Hearing Date: 2/22/2023

Room Number: CR 229

Fiscal Implications: N/A

Department Testimony: The Department of Health supports this measure which allows dental and dental hygiene college graduates recognized by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation (ADA CODA) to apply for temporary and/or community service licenses. This allows community service license holders to be employed or participate in post-doctorate dental residency programs at community-based dental organizations such as the Department of Health, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC), and the Native Hawaiian Health Care Systems. It also supports allowing a “community health center” to employ dentists/dental hygienists that have a community service license. This bill helps address the workforce shortage of public oral health providers that serve the most underserved and vulnerable populations, including Medicaid recipients.

Currently, the ADA CODA only “recognizes” the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC) accredited dental educational programs. Through a formal reciprocal agreement between the ADA CODA and the CDAC, the Commissions agree that the educational programs accredited by the other agency are equivalent to their own and no further education is required for eligibility for licensure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Offered Amendments: N/A



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Wednesday, February 22, 2023 at 9:35 a.m.

by

Clementina D. Ceria-Ulep, Interim Dean
Nancy Atmospera-Walch School of Nursing

and

Michael Bruno, Provost
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 162 SD 1 – RELATING TO DENTISTRY LICENSES

Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 162 SD1 with comments.

This measure aims to do several things, including allowing the Board of Dentistry to issue without examination, a community service license to practice dental hygiene in the employment of a community health center and allows eligible candidates to submit as documentation and credentials, diplomas and certificates of graduation from a dental hygiene college or dental college that is recognized by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation, recognized and approved by the Board.

Currently, the State of Hawai'i law requires that to be licensed as a dentist or a dental hygienist you must graduate from an "accredited" Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) School versus someone who is "recognized" by CODA.

After reviewing the changes this measure proposes, the outcome would not change how the Dental Hygiene Program at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Nancy Atmospera-Walch School of Nursing (NAWSON) would operate regarding curriculum. The NAWSON Dental Hygiene program is accredited by CODA. Our graduates, if licensed here in the State of Hawai'i, would be able to apply for a license.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments related to this measure.

Testimony of the Board of Dentistry

**Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Wednesday, February 22, 2023
9:35 a.m.
Via Videoconference**

**On the following measure:
S.B. 162 S.D. 1, RELATING TO DENTISTRY LICENSES**

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee:

My name is Sheena Choy, and I am the Executive Officer of the Board of Dentistry (Board). The Board appreciates the intent of this bill.

The purposes of this bill are to: (1) allow the Board of Dentistry to issue without examination, a community service license to practice dental hygiene in the employment of a community health center and allows eligible candidates to submit as documentation and credentials, diplomas and certificates of graduation from a dental hygiene college or dental college that has a reciprocal agreement with the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA), recognized and approved by the Board; (2) allow the Board to issue without examination, a community service license to practice dentistry in the employment of a community health center and allows eligible candidates to submit as documentation and credentials, diplomas and certificates of graduation from a dental hygiene college or dental college that has a reciprocal agreement with the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation, recognized and approved by the Board and certificates or other evidence satisfactory to the Board of having passed the Integrated National Board Dental Examination; and (3) allow the Board to issue without examination, a temporary license to practice dentistry exclusively under the auspices of a dental residency program, to graduates from a dental college that has a reciprocal agreement with the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation, recognized and approved by the Board.

The Board supports: (1) the addition of the term “community health center” to authorized entities that may employ dentists and/or dental hygienists with a community

service license; and (2) updating the reference to the dental exam to include the "Integrated National Board Dental Examination", which has replaced the National Board Dental Examination Part I and Part II. The Board respectfully requests that this updated language also be applied to Hawaii Revised Statutes section 448-9(3)(B) for consistency as follows:

§448-9 Application for licensure. Any person of eighteen years or more shall be eligible for licensure upon submission of:

- (1) An application to the executive officer of the board not later than forty-five days prior to the date of the scheduled examination;
- (2) Application and examination fees; and
- (3) Documentation and credentials that shall include but are not limited to the following:
 - (A) A diploma or certificate of graduation from a dental college accredited by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation, recognized and approved by the board; and
 - (B) A certificate or other evidence satisfactory to the board of having passed parts I and II of the National Board Dental Examination or the Integrated National Board Dental Examination.

The Board appreciates the amendments reflected in the S.D. 1, which clarify that the issuance of community service licenses and temporary licenses without examination only apply to graduates of a dental college or dental hygiene college with a "reciprocal agreement" with the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation, rather than "recognized" by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation.

Further, while the language of this bill is limited to applicants for the community service license or temporary license, several Board members expressed their concern that this limited acceptance for a dental hygiene college or dental college that has a reciprocal agreement with the CODA will set a precedent that may eventually be applied to dentists and dental hygienists applying for a permanent license.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



February 22, 2023

9:35 a.m.

Conference Room 229

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

To: Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Sen. Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair

Sen. Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair

From: Grassroot Institute of Hawaii

Ted Kefalas, Director of Strategic Campaigns

RE: SB162 SD1 — RELATING TO DENTISTRY LICENSES

Comments Only

Dear Chair and Committee Members:

The Grassroot Institute of Hawaii would like to offer its comments on [SB162 SD1](#), which would allow the state Board of Dentistry to issue community service licenses to practice dentistry and dental hygiene as well as temporary licenses to practice dentistry, provided the applicants meet certain specified criteria.

If enacted, this bill would be a positive step toward addressing Hawaii's shortage of medical professionals, which has led to significant barriers to healthcare access, especially on the neighbor islands.

It is well established that Hawaii is suffering from a shortage of vital healthcare workers, including dentists. The Hawaii Department of Health has designated both Maui and Hawaii Counties — as well as a segment of the City and County of Honolulu — as Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas.¹

Fixing the shortage in healthcare workers requires a multipronged strategy that will address everything from Hawaii's high cost of living to the state's regulatory scheme for healthcare

¹ ["Hawaii Health Professional Shortage Areas,"](#) Hawaii Department of Health, August 2020.

facilities. Perhaps most important is the need to reform licensing regulations for healthcare professionals.

One-fourth of all licensed workers in the U.S. work in healthcare.² Their licenses can be difficult to obtain, are expensive and carry geographic or “scope of practice” limitations.

As discussed in an upcoming policy brief on medical licensing by the Grassroot Institute of Hawaii, the state’s shortage of healthcare professionals makes its restrictions on healthcare workers who already hold licenses in other U.S. states seem redundant and self-defeating.

As the Federal Trade Commission noted in a report on occupational licensing portability:

There is little justification for the burdensome, costly, and redundant licensing processes that many states impose on qualified, licensed, out-of-state applicants. Such requirements likely inhibit multistate practice and delay or even prevent licensees from working in their occupations upon relocation to a new state. Indeed, for occupations that have not implemented any form of license portability, the harm to competition from suppressed mobility may far outweigh any plausible consumer protection benefit from the failure to provide for license portability.³

In other words, though medical licensing is intended to protect the public, there is a point at which the level of regulation reduces the number of people in practice without an appreciable public benefit.

One study of licensing among medical professionals found that “licensing is associated with restricted labor supply, an increased wage of the licensed occupation, rents, increased output prices, and no measurable effect on output quality.”⁴

This is where we can benefit from the lessons learned during the coronavirus situation. The governor’s emergency modification to state licensing laws demonstrated a need to embrace license portability, making it a simple matter for a nurse licensed in another state to practice in Hawaii.

² Ryann Nunn, [“Improving Health Care Through Occupational Licensing Reform.”](#) RealClear Markets, Aug. 28, 2018

³ Karen Goldman, [“Options to Enhance Occupational License Portability.”](#) U.S. Federal Trade Commission, September 2018, p. 25.

⁴ Sean Nicholson and Carol Propper, [“Chapter Fourteen — Medical Workforce.”](#) in “Handbook of Health Economics, Vol. 2,” Elsevier, B.V., 2012, p. 885, cited also in the previously mentioned [FTC study](#), footnote #9, p3.

The expanded permissions to issue temporary and community service licenses for dentistry and dental hygiene outlined in this bill are a partial answer to the need to attract more dentists to Hawaii.

Over the long term, lawmakers should consider other ways to enhance license portability, to help end health professional shortages and improve healthcare access for all.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our comments.

Sincerely,

Ted Kefalas
Director of Strategic Campaigns,
Grassroot Institute of Hawaii



Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks! is a nonpartisan 501c4 nonprofit committed to advocating for children and their families. Our core issues are safety, health, and education.

To: Senator Keohokalole, Chair
Senator Fukunaga, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: SB162 SD1, relating to dentistry licenses
9:35 p.m., Feb. 22, 2023

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga and committee members:

On behalf of Hawai'i Children's Action Network (HCAN) Speaks!, mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **STRONG SUPPORT** of **Senate Bill 162 SD1, relating to dentistry licenses.**

Oral health is critical to a person's overall health and well-being. But oral health takes access, and currently, there is a severe shortage of public oral health professionals, which includes dentists and dental hygienists. This means that at a time when more individuals have the coverage to access dental benefits, **we do not have enough professionals to serve them.**

This bill makes important revisions to the Hawai'i Dental Practice Act that will allow community health centers to recruit eligible candidates for temporary and community service licenses, allow graduates of ADA-Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA)-recognized institutions eligibility for temporary and community service licenses, and include the Integrated National Dental Board Examination as an acceptable examination requirement.

SB162 can increase the supply of public oral health professionals at an important time: the reinstatement of dental benefits for adults insured through Medicaid. This is a **no-cost** solution that can make an impact quickly.

We urge you to support SB162 SD1.

Mahalo,

Ke'ōpū Reelitz
Director of Early Learning and Health Policy



Hawaii Dental Association

To: Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Time/Date: 9:35 a.m., February 22, 2023
Location: State Capitol Conference Room 229 and Videoconference
Re: SB 162, SD 1 Relating to Dentistry Licenses

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Vice-Chair Fukunaga, and members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Dental Association (HDA) testifies in **support** of SB 162, SD 1 Relating to Dentistry Licenses. This bill amends the qualifications for dentist community service licenses and dentists' temporary licenses, and for dental hygienist community service licenses by requiring the acceptance of candidates who are graduates of a dental college or dental hygiene college with a reciprocal agreement with the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation.

HDA is committed to ensuring patient safety and promoting oral health for our community. Including this proposed language will help to ensure quality care for patients across the state.

Oral health is essential for overall health and wellness. One cannot be healthy without a healthy mouth. It can show signs of nutritional deficiencies or general infection. Systemic diseases, those that affect the entire body, may first become apparent because of mouth lesions or other oral problems. This bill seeks to increase access to sufficient dental care, especially those in native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities. The high rate of tooth decay among Hawaii's children, which can lead to pain that interferes with daily activities, is of the highest degree of importance to the Hawaii Dental Association and its members. Untreated cavities also increase the risk of more serious infection in the mouth and body. We welcome an opportunity to engage in dialog on this measure and to serve as a resource to policy makers on oral health.

HDA is a statewide membership organization representing dentists practicing in Hawaii and licensed by the State of Hawaii's Board of Dentistry. HDA members are committed to protecting the oral health and well-being of the people of Hawaii, from keiki to kupuna and everyone in between.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 162, SD 1.



Testimony in Support of SB 162 SD1

Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

February 22, 2023, 9:35AM

Relating to Dentistry Licenses

Dear Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and respected members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection,

The Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association (HDHA) strongly **SUPPORTS SB 162 SD1**. This measure works to revise the existing Hawaii Dental Practice Act, allowing FQHC's and other community health centers to recruit eligible dentist and dental hygiene candidates more effectively for temporary and community service licenses. The requested changes in Hawaii Revised Statutes, will allow graduates of ADA-Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) institutions the ability for swifter licensure in Hawaii should they be employed solely in a defined, public health setting.

Increasing the number of eligible candidates for community service and temporary licensure in Hawaii is important because of a noticeable shortage over the last few years of public health dentists and dental hygienists who are the primary providers for Hawaii's underserved and vulnerable populations including Medicaid recipients who will benefit from recent legislation to include adult dental benefits.

Oral health is a critical component of overall health and wellness. SB 162 SD1 will help address the workforce shortage in the public health dental sector, improving access to quality dental care and help to reduce Hawaii's oral health disparities. This "No-Cost" approach to improve access to dental care, is an effective means of ensuring the health and quality of life for all of Hawaii's residents.

As the largest association representing Hawaii's licensed dental hygienists, HDHA strongly **SUPPORTS SB 162 SD1** and humbly ask your committee to support these proposed revisions to the Hawaii Dental Practice Act. Thank you for your consideration.

Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association

2023 Regulations and Practice Committee



Testimony in Support of SB162 SD1, Relating to Dentistry Licenses

Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
February 22, 2023
9:35 AM
Conference Room 229

Aloha Chair Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Committee Members:

Improving access to oral health care is a top concern for Hawaii Dental Service (HDS). As the state's leading dental benefits provider, HDS is responsible for serving more than a million residents in Hawaii, Guam and Saipan, including Medicaid adult and children beneficiaries. HDS strongly supports SB162 SD1 because it provides health equity solutions by improving access to oral health care for underserved communities, especially those on our neighbor islands.

Updating the Hawaii Dental Practice Act (HRS §448-12) offers multiple benefits to address oral health care access challenges:

- 1) It will enable community health centers with post-doctoral residency programs to attract dental school graduates with a heart for community service by granting them temporary or community service licenses to support the community health centers.
- 2) Quality assurance is critical. The stipulation that these dentists be graduates of institutions recognized by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) or those who meet the requirements of the Integrated National Dental Board Examination will provide peace of mind for the community.
- 3) Dental hygiene college graduates from institutions recognized by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation would also be eligible to apply for a community service license, further expanding access to oral health care.

The amendments do not require a funding allocation. In fact, access to dental care for Hawaii's most vulnerable could result in earlier interventions, which in return can reduce oral health costs in the long run.

Thank you in advance for your support of SB162 SD1 and for helping to address health disparities in our state.

Mahalo nui loa,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Diane Paloma', written in a cursive style.

Dr. Diane Paloma
President & CEO



HAWAI'I ORAL HEALTH COALITION

Date: February 22, 2023

To: The Honorable Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair
The Honorable Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Support for SB162 SD1, Relating to Dentistry Licenses

Hrg: February 22, 2023, at 9:35 am - Conference Room 229 & via Videoconference

The Hawai'i Oral Health Coalition, a program of the Hawai'i Public Health Institute, is in **strong support of SB162 SD1**, which revises the Hawai'i Dental Practice Act to allow community health centers to recruit eligible candidates for temporary and community service licenses, allow graduates of ADA-Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) recognized institutions eligibility for temporary and community service licenses and includes the Integrated National Dental Board Examination as an acceptable examination requirement.

The mission of the Hawai'i Oral Health Coalition (HOHC) is to improve the overall health and well-being of all Hawai'i residents by increasing access to and equity in oral health care through collaborative partnerships, advocacy, and education. HOHC is a community-driven organization comprised of members representing organizations and individuals from diverse sectors across Hawai'i. The HOHC operates under the auspice of the Hawai'i Public Health Institute.

Oral health is essential to the overall physical, psychological, social, and economic well-being of Hawai'i's residents. Yet, our residents suffer from poor oral health:

- Hawai'i has among the highest prevalence of dental decay in children and adults compared to other states.
- Low-income families, intellectually and developmentally disabled residents, kūpuna, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander populations, and neighbor island residents are disproportionately impacted by poor oral health.
- Our state's 14 Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) cared for approximately 40,000 dental patients in 2021.ⁱ FQHCs have long wait lists due to the limited facility and staffing capacity.
- Only 240 FQHC and general practice dentists are active in Medicaid in Hawai'i. However, it is unclear how many currently accept new patients.
- Lack of an in-state dental school, geographic isolation, lack of community water fluoridation, and societal inequities are significant contributors to our poor oral health status.

SB162 SD1 will help to increase the number of dentists available to Medicaid patients. This measure will help adult Medicaid beneficiaries to gain access to the Medicaid adult dental benefits that the legislature generously approved in 2022.

The Hawai'i Dental Practice Act requires that eligible candidates for temporary and community service licensure must have graduated from an ADA – Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) accredited institution. However, it does not reflect the reciprocal agreement between CODA and the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC). The reciprocal agreement recognizes that the “educational programs accredited by the other agency are equivalent to their own and no further education is required for eligibility for licensure.”ⁱⁱ

SB162 SD1, as proposed, applies exclusively to community service, hygiene, and temporary dental licenses. The community service and temporary licenses for post-doctoral dental residency programs continue to require clinical oversight of these licenses by the employing entity or residency program. Only authorized entities that are community-based or focused may hire individuals with a community service license.

Illinois, Indiana, Florida, Kansas, Minnesota, North Dakota, Tennessee, and Wyoming are states that currently accept qualified Canadian candidates to meet the high demand for community service providers.

This bill will help increase access to care while maintaining the quality of care our residents deserve by strengthening our public dental sector, which many residents, especially those living in rural and neighbor island communities, rely on.

For these reasons, we respectfully ask you to pass SB162 SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,



Patrick Donnelly
Statewide Oral Health Coalition Manager
Hawai'i Public Health Institute

ⁱ <https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/data-reporting/program-data?grantNum=H80CS06640>

ⁱⁱ Commission on Dental Accreditation, Evaluation & Operational Policies & Procedures. August 2022.

Testimony on Senate Bill 162 SD1

Relating to Dentists and Dental Hygienists

Submitted by Dr. Steven Pine, DDS., Chief Dental Officer, Hawaii Island Community Health Center

February 2, 2023

I, Dr. Steven Pine, DDS, currently work as the Chief Dental Officer at Hawaii Island Community Health Center (HICHC) and I strongly support Senate Bill 162 which expands access to dental health care by increasing the pool of qualified professionals.

At HICHC we believe that oral health indicates much more than simply healthy teeth, as the mouth can be both a cause and a window to individual and population health and well-being. Oral health is critical to general health and well-being as the mouth is the gateway to the rest of the body, providing clues about overall health. It is sometimes the first place where signs and symptoms of other diseases are noticed. Causes of poor oral health are complex and access to dental care for adults and children is crucial for overall health and well-being.

As the largest provider of Medicaid dental services on the Big Island, the community relies on our services to help fill the need of our islands underserved and vulnerable populations. Since the pandemic numerous national surveys indicate that over ½ of the dental hygiene workforce left during the pandemic and never returned. Our island has not been immune from this challenge. The shortage of both dentists and hygienists has been especially felt in the Medicaid community. Long wait times for services has become the norm instead of the exception. The shortage of providers has become more acute with the passage of the adult Medicaid dental benefits expansion.

Senate Bill 162 help address this challenge through the expansion of qualified dental professionals eligible for community service and temporary licensure without decreasing the health and safety of Hawaii residents.

Currently the Hawaii Dental Practice Act stipulates that applicants must graduate from an ADA CODA “accredited” dental program. With its current language the practice act eliminates the possibility of licensure for providers who have graduated from an ADA CODA “recognized” dental program. CODA or, the Commission on Dental Accreditation, recognizes the reciprocal agreement between themselves and the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC). CODA’s current reciprocal agreement with CDAC states:

Under the reciprocal agreement, each Commission recognizes the accreditation of educational programs in specified categories accredited by the other agency. Under this arrangement, the Commissions agree that the educational programs accredited by the other agency are equivalent to their own and no further education is required for eligibility for licensure.

This bill would recognize and bring into alignment the Hawaii Dental Practice Act with CODA's reciprocal agreement.

If this bill is passed and drafted into law, it would apply only to community service licenses (dentists and hygienists) and temporary licenses within the state. All other required qualifications for licensure would not change and there is no pathway or backdoor access for an individual with these licenses to obtain an unrestricted license in this state without meeting the required specific qualifications for a standard license.

Allowing this change for the community service and temporary licensure allows these community-based programs and post-doctoral dental residency programs to have a greater access to qualified applicants. In addition, there will still be mandatory clinical oversight of these licenses by the employing entity or residency program.

The importance of the passage of this bill will be directly felt by our local communities. Within the last three years HICHC has had two applicants (one dentist and one hygienist) who were denied licensure because they graduated from a CODA recognized school and not a CODA accredited school. With the average provider seeing over 1,200 patients a year this loss of provider access directly affects our communities and leaves a void in our programs that can take years to fill.

For these reasons I strongly support **SB 162**. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Steven C. Pine D.D.S., Chief Dental Officer
Hawaii Island Community Health Center

SB-162-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2023 8:59:40 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/22/2023 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rachel DiPasquale	Testifying for Waikiki Health	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To: Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Date/Time: February 22, 2023 9:35 am

Re: Support for SB162, Relating to Dentistry Licenses

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga , and committee members,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB162 which revises the Hawai'i Dental Practice Act to allow community health centers to recruit eligible candidates for temporary and community service licenses, allow graduates of ADA-Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) recognized institutions eligibility for temporary and community service licenses, and includes the Integrated National Dental Board Examination as an acceptable examination requirement.

As a site director at Waikiki Health for the NYU Langone AED program, I have seen first-hand the impact this legislation will have on our future residents. My site was one who lost a resident this year due to the current licensing statues. Our patients were the ones who felt the deepest effect as we had one less dentist providing services for our already underserved patient population.

The American Dental Association only recognizes the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC) accredited dental educational programs. Through a formal reciprocal agreement between the ADA CODA and CDAC, the Commissions agree that the educational programs accredited by the other agency are equivalent to their own and no further education is required for eligibility for licensure.

With the Community Health Dentist license and Temporary dentist license for post-doctoral residency programs, there continues to be a mandatory clinical oversight of these licenses by the employing entity or residency program. Only authorized entities that are community based/focused can hire individuals with a community service license. This helps address the patient safety and clinical quality concerns. No individual will be opening their own office or clinic independently owned.

All other required qualifications and requirements for community service and temporary licenses are not changed. Only the ADA CODA recognized portion.

-ADA CODA Reciprocal Agreement with Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada:

“The reciprocal accreditation arrangement between the Commission on Dental Accreditation and the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC) has been maintained and expanded since its adoption in 1956. Under the reciprocal agreement, each Commission recognizes the accreditation of educational programs in specified categories accredited by the other agency. Under this arrangement, the Commissions agree that the educational programs accredited by the other agency are equivalent to their own and no further education is required for eligibility for licensure... The Commissions believe that this cross-participation is important in maintaining an understanding of the accreditation processes in each country and in ensuring that the accreditation processes in each country continue to be equivalent. “

There are currently approximately 240 dental providers statewide that accept Medicaid, including those at Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs)

Before benefits were reinstated this January, FQHCs were seeing fewer than 40,000 dental patients collectively and many are reporting limited physical capacity for additional patients, limited staffing, and long wait lists.

Multiple states currently accept Canadian graduates including Illinois, Indiana, Florida, Kansas, Minnesota, North Dakota, Tennessee, and Wyoming

I strongly support this bill to revise the licensing for oral health professionals. Not only will there be a greater candidate pool for post-doctoral dental residency programs, but also will benefit in the hiring of staff dentists to our health centers. The bill can be impactful and does not require financial appropriations or budget allocation. This bill will also allow rural health centers to recruit dentists and dental hygienists.

Oral health is a critical component of overall health and wellness. The proposed amendments will support the overwhelming need for providers that serve vulnerable Hawai'i residents, especially those receiving the recently reinstated Medicaid dental benefits. No-cost approaches to improving access to dental care, such as these, are an effective means of protecting the State's investment in ensuring the health and quality of life that everyone in Hawai'i deserves.

For these reasons, I humbly ask you to support these proposed revisions to the Hawai'i Dental Practice Act.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Rachel DiPasquale, DDS

Waikiki Health

To: Committee on Health and Human Services
Senator San Buenaventura
Senator Aquino

Hearing Date/Time: February 22, 2023 at 9:00 am; Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

Re: SB162 RELATING TO DENTISTRY LICENSES

Aloha Chair San Buenaventura, Vice Chair Aquino, and Committee Members.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony to **STRONGLY SUPPORT** SB162 which would allow eligible dental providers to practice under a temporary and community service licenses.

As a practicing pediatric dentist in an underserved area of Flint, Michigan, I can attest to the fact that delayed dental and oral health care can have adverse effects for both the patient and family. Children miss school due to dental pain and infections. Parents miss work because their need to attend to their child's dental pain and discomfort.

Access to care is the underlying factor for these children. Increasing the number of dental providers would alleviate the wait time and allow for timely dental care.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Terence Chan, DDS, MSD

Flint, Michigan

To: Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Hearing Date/Time: February 22, 2023 at 9:35AM; Conference Room 229 & Videoconference
Re: Support for SB162, SD1, Relating to Dentistry Licenses

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga and committee members,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of SB162.

I am a dentist who works with underserved and Indigenous populations across Canada. I recently completed my Master of Public Health which included conducting research with Hawai'i Oral Health Coalition. I was surprised to observe the poor access to care that many vulnerable people in Hawai'i face. The resulting poor oral health translates into poor overall health. This inequality further results in a huge expense to the health care system.

I have passed my INBDE and ADEX exams, in the hopes of obtaining licensure in Hawai'i to work with underserved populations. Unlike the vast majority of states in America, I was informed that even though I passed my INBDE, ADEX, and my dental school in Canada meets the accreditation standards that are recognized by the ADA's CODA-CDAC mutual reciprocal agreement, I am ineligible for licensure.

If Hawai'i recognizes the reciprocal agreement between CODA and CDAC, this will allow qualified, board certified dentists, who have passed the INBDE, to provide preventative and restorative care to vulnerable populations in underserved areas. This can drastically improve the health of these communities and decrease the overall financial burden on the state. No-cost approaches to improving access to care are an effective means of protecting the State's investment in ensuring the health and quality of life that everyone in Hawai'i deserves, especially those receiving the recently reinstated Medicaid dental benefits.

I humbly ask you to **support** these proposed revisions to the Hawai'i Dental Practice Act and pass SB162.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Dr. Andrew Davidson
BSc, DMD, MPH

Date: February 20, 2023

House Committee: on Commerce and Consumer Protection (DPN)

To: the Honorable Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair

the Honorable Senator Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair

Re: **S.B.162,SD1**, Relating to Dentistry and Dental Hygiene Licenses

Hrg: February 22, 2023 at 9:35 am

Testifier: Dr. Don B. Sand, DDS

I am a dentist who has provided frontline dental care to the underserved in Hawaii for eight years. For seven years, I have been a **leader in our safety-net sector**. In advocacy, I am a founding member of HOHC, Hawaii Oral Health Coalition, established in 2019, and I am the **current Chair of the Committee on Prevention and Access**. With this experience in clinical care and advocacy, I stand in strong support of bill **SB.162, SD1**

Currently, oral health care in Hawai'i is available only to those who can afford it. Those who do not have adequate dental insurance or cash reserves struggle to get even acute dental needs met. All ages are adversely affected by the lack of a robust oral health system—from young keiki to adults to the kupuna. Most severely affected are those living in rural areas and most areas of our neighboring islands, especially in the Native Hawaiian and Pacific Island communities.

Thousands of citizens of Hawai'i, our people, are missing some of their front teeth needed to smile for work, job interviews, or fulfill essential social and behavioral health needs. A healthy smile contributes to self-esteem. It contributes to better nutrition and overall health and well-being. Every day thousands of adults do not have enough back teeth to enjoy plate lunches or even meet their minimal nutritional needs. With each passing day that the oral health system fails our people, they needlessly suffer the pain of oral and facial infections due to abscessed teeth or gums. Economically, that is costing the patient and our State, but how do you put a cost on needless suffering? A recent 5-year Hawaii study concluded that preventable oral disease costs our ER hospital systems \$38.7 million. Close to half of that is lost Medicaid funds.

Our existing 14 safety-net community health centers could care for just under **40,000 patients** in 2021. Due to the reinstatement of the adult dental Medicaid benefit, **280,000 adults** became eligible for Medicaid dental services starting last month, Jan 1, 2023. Of those 280,000 eligible, 70,000 are estimated to be Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders. The seven-fold increase in volume requires a seven-fold increase in capacity. More than buildings or chairs, the number of highly qualified and licensed dentists and hygienists need to be increased to service these new Medicaid patients.

Last week the referring Senate committee HHS found that oral health is a critical component of overall health and wellness, and increasing the number of available public health dentists and dental hygienists who primarily treat the State's underserved and vulnerable populations is

crucial to address the noticeable shortage over the last few years. This measure will address the workforce shortage in the public health dental sector, improving access to quality dental care and help to reduce the State's oral health disparities.

This bill has no direct cost to the state. But this strategy will save millions of dollars each year by allowing our system to license and deploy more highly qualified dentists and hygienists with temporary and community service licenses, without affecting the private dental market. As the original language of the HRS 448, these professionals coming to Hawai'i or are already here in Hawai'i can immediately service our underserved. Their practice would be limited to community health initiatives serving in charity programs, Medicaid programs, public health outreach programs, rural health and preventive care initiatives. The typical mission-minded dentists have had successful careers, have no debts (unlike new graduates) and are happy to work as volunteers or for low salaries as they understand the reimbursement rates for preventive care and outreach care is very low.

This bill does not change in any way the original intent or scope of practice for the community service license but only aims to clarify the language by describing in detail the service entities that these charity- minded professionals can serve using the phrase "community health centers". We humbly ask that in this this term be added the following clearly defined terms into the measure that describes the additional venues that community service dentists may be licensed to help the underserved including rural health clinics, Medicaid clinics, mobile dental outreach to the homeless and in primary prevention programs like our Keiki Sealant outreach to elementary schools.

The second provision in this bill is intended to clarify the phrase CODA accredited and the phrase CODA recognized in describing health care professions of "**equivalent**" high standard of training and licensure in their home state (USA) and their home country (Canada).

This bill will reduce the workforce shortage in the public dental sector, and in rural and neighbor islands to improve access to dental care and reduce oral health disparities.

As Hawai'i continues to document poor oral health outcomes among our vulnerable populations, we must continue to work together to enhance innovative, resourceful and proactive approaches to increase access to care while maintaining the quality of care our residents deserve.

Mahalo for your consideration and strong support of **SB.162, SD1.** Much Mahalos for this opportunity to testify.

Dr. Don Sand, DDS

LATE

SB-162-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2023 3:53:45 PM

Testimony for CPN on 2/22/2023 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lauren N. Bundschuh DDS	Testifying for Ho'ola Lahui Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To: Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Hearing Date/Time: February 22, 2023 at 9:35AM; Conference Room 229 & Videoconference;
State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street.

Re: Support for SB162, Relating to Dentistry Licenses

Aloha Chair Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair Senator Carol Fukunaga, and committee members,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **STRONG SUPPORT** of SB162 which revises the Hawai'i Dental Practice Act to allow community health centers to recruit eligible candidates for temporary community Service licenses, allow graduates of ADA-Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) recognized institutions eligibility for temporary and community service licenses, and includes the Integrated National Dental Board Examination as an acceptable examination requirement.

Increasing the number of eligible candidates for community service and temporary licensure is important because more dental needs will be met. Bottom line. I feel we have a critical shortage of Dentists serving in the Public Health arena and a shortage of privately owned Dental practices participating in Medicaid. This directly affects our most vulnerable and underserved population in our rural communities. This bill with it's proposed amendments will support the overwhelming need for Providers that serve vulnerable Hawai'i residents especially those receiving the recently reinstated Medicaid dental benefits. No-cost approaches to improving access to dental care, such as these, are an effective means of protecting the State's investment in ensuring the health and quality of life that everyone in Hawai'i deserves.

For these reasons, I humbly ask you to **support** these proposed revisions to the Hawai'i Dental Practice Act.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Lauren N. Bundschuh, DDS

Dental Director

Ho'ola Lahui Hawaii