



North Dakota State Board of Dental Examiners

PO Box 7246, Bismarck, ND 58507-7246 • info@nddentalboard.org • 701.258.8600 • <https://www.nddentalboard.org>

Senate Workforce Development Committee

February 21, 2025; 9:00 am

State Capitol; Fort Lincoln Room

Testimony of the North Dakota State Board of Dental Examiners

In Support; SB 2375

Chair Wobbema and members of the Senate Workforce Development Committee, my name is David Schaibley and I'm the Executive Director of the North Dakota State Board of Dental Examiners. I'm here today providing the Board's testimony in support of SB 2395.

The Board appreciates the countless hours that former Commissioner Svihovec and his staff dedicated to gathering information and listening to stakeholders, and Senator Hogue for using that work as a foundation for this Bill.

The result is a Bill that codifies a streamlined approach to licensure for applicants possessing a comparable license from another state, while at the same time reinforcing the critical role of licensing boards to ensure applicant competency and public safety.

Through legislation, rulemaking, and operations, the Dental Board has largely achieved the goals of this Bill, and so we are supportive of it. At the same time, we urge caution. Because while there is value in increasing governmental efficiency and streamlining access to the workforce, legislating in support of those goals without fully understanding the often-valid reasons for differences in the laws that regulate various professions can cause substantial harm to the public. Not every profession is alike and so not all regulations governing them can or should be identical. Within the dental field alone we regulate three professions and scores of permitted duties. We are grateful that SB 2395 allows our Board to continue ensuring competency at each of these levels and for each of these duties.

We appreciate your willingness to hear our perspective as you consider SB 2395, and your careful assessment of any amendments to it or other Bills that might undermine our Board's ability to assess applicant competency.

Thank you for your time. I am happy to address any concerns you might have or answer any questions.

Prepared and Presented by:

David Schaibley

Executive Director of the North Dakota State Board of Dental Examiners

david@nndentalboard.org; 701-258-8600