



April 3, 2024

RE: Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact

Thank you Chairwoman Spearman and members of the Joint Interim Committee on Commerce and Labor.

For the record, I am Caryn Solie, a licensed dental hygienist in Reno/Sparks and co-chair of the Nevada Dental Hygienists's Association Government Affairs Committee. I have been a full time practicing dental hygienist for 53 years and in that time I have obtained licenses in five (5) different states. I have personal experience in the challenges of obtaining dental hygiene licensure in multiple states.

The Nevada Dental Hygienists' Association (NDHA) has policy dating back to 2001 that supports licensure portability, therefore, NDHA supports the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact, an initiative of the Department of Defense, the Council of State Governments, American Dental Association, and American Dental Hygienists' Association designed to increase license portability for dental professionals. Key considerations for Nevada are:

***Benefits for the State***

- Promotes workforce development and strengthens labor markets.
- Expands consumer access to highly qualified practitioners.
- Enhances public safety through a shared interstate data system of licensure and disciplinary information, allowing for rapid verification of licensure status and cooperation among states.
- Preserves state sovereignty.

***Benefits for State Dentistry Licensing Authorities***

- Reduces administrative burden.
- Creates a compact information system that supports the facilitation of licensure and discipline information for dentists and dental hygienists.

- Expands cooperation among state licensure boards on investigations and disputes.
- Allows regulators to retain jurisdiction over licensees practicing in their state

***Benefits for Practitioners***

- Facilitates mobility for licensees.
- Expands employment opportunities into new markets.
- Eases the burden of applying for and maintaining multiple licenses.
- Supports relocating military spouses and families.
- Improves continuity of care.

Thank you for your consideration in our request to move the Dentist Dental Hygienist Compact into Nevada Statute.

Respectfully,

Caryn Solie, RDH, FADHA  
Co-chair of Nevada Dental Hygienist's Association Government Affairs