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From: ST, DENTISTRY
Sent: Tuesday, September 02, 2008 9:40 AM
To: Montgomery, Cynthia
Subject: FW: Dental Hygiene Regulations

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

-----Original Message-----

From: Sandra Zagar [mailto:szzagar@hacc.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, September 02, 2008 9:36 AM
To: ST, DENTISTRY
Subject: Dental Hygiene Regulations

Sirs

I strongly urge passage of the regulations permitting creation of the Public Health Dental Hygienist and the reinstatement of the ability of registered dental hygienists to administer anesthesia. As the Director of the Harrisburg Area Community College Dental Hygiene Program and a practicing dental hygienist for over 40 years, I know the capabilities of the members of our profession enable them to practice in the best interest of their patients. The public will continue to receive excellent preventive dental hygiene services and access to preventive dental care will be come available to many underserved populations.

Unfortunately, the restrictive regulations within Pennsylvania have led to the loss of many talented and intelligent dental hygienists who have found the rules under which they practice an impediment to reaching their full potential within their profession. The proposed regulation changes will allow registered dental hygienists to obtain a degree of freedom, in the provision of dental services, within their profession. Providing new and challenging career paths for these people will keep us from losing the "best and the brightest" dental hygienists because of lack of career autonomy.

Sandra Zagar

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