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From: Joel Jaspan [jaspan@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, September 12, 2008 10:30 PM
To: st-dentistry@state.pa.us; IRRC
Subject: Dental Hygiene- Local Anesthesia

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dr John V. Reitz

I am attaching a letter of support of the proposal to increase the scope of dental hygiene to include local anesthesia. I hope this proposal becomes reality in the near future.

Joel S Jaspan DDS

9/15/2008

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September 12,2008

To: Pennsylvania State Board of Dentistry

I am writing to support the proposed increase in the scope of Dental Hygiene Practice to allow properly trained dental hygienists to administer local anesthesia.

I have been in private periodontal practice for 37 years; I have been involved in Dental Hygiene education at Montgomery County Community college for more than 20 years; and I am the President of the Pennsylvania Society of Periodontists.

As you are aware the majority of the states have allowed dental hygienists to administer local anesthesia for several years. To my knowledge there has been no increase in adverse reaction to anesthesia in these states.

The removal of subgingival calculus is frequently painful for the patient. Without local anesthesia the hygienist has two choices; create discomfort-which could result in the patient not returning to the office to complete treatment, or have the dentist provide the local anesthesia. This, of course, mandates that the dentist interrupt treatment of their patient, to come to the hygienist's operatory to provide the local anesthesia, which disrupts the office and is not cost effective.

As I stated above, I have been involved in dental hygiene education for many years. Hygienists are well educated and clinically competent dental professionals. With the additional training outlined in your proposal I am sure they easily we able to grasp the

knowledge and skills necessary to provide local anesthesia. This will enable the
hygienists to improve the periodontal health of Pennsylvanians and become a true
member of the DENTAL HEALTH TEAM.

Yours truly,

Joel Jaspan DDS