

2720

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

**From:** Frank Ps [mailto:ftparris@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 20, 2008 9:28 PM  
**To:** IRRC  
**Cc:** jaclyngleber@comcast.net  
**Subject:** Support Proposed Changes To Dental Hygiene Regulations

Dear Sir

Please review the attached documents.

One attachment contains proposed changes to Dental Hygiene Regulations. The other contains my letter to Peter Grovich Esq. SBoFD Strongly supporting the proposed changes.

Respectfully Yours

Frank T. Parris, Jr. RDH, BSDH.  
7305 Valley Ave  
Philadelphia PA 19128  
215-482-5805  
[ftparris@hotmail.com](mailto:ftparris@hotmail.com)

RECEIVED

2008 SEP 30 AM 8:55

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

Christopher Grovich, Esq.  
State Board of Dentistry  
PO Box 2649  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

September 20, 2008

Dear Mr. Grovich,

I urgently request that you support the changes to Dental Hygiene Regulations and allow the RDH better access to PA consumers via these changes. In my work and interview experience, the dentist controls, by the nature of his small business, the type care any RDH may deliver to his patients, and the time of day it can be rendered. With the proposed changes, an RDH can work a full day's schedule while the dentist "Floats" between his two offices and keep more staff busy and expand RDH access to the patient before and after Dentist's hours. Also, while all dentists expect quality service, some dentists stress quantity a great deal more.

An RDH needs to be viewed more like an RN and less like a dental assistant with a license. There is no "Civil Service" status for the RDH as exists for Dentists and Assistants in Public Dental Health Care. Dental Assistants are promoting Polishing Teeth and Fluoride Treatments in recent petitions to the State Board of Dentistry. Polishing Teeth provides no aspect of "Health to the Gums" and the Benefits and Hazards of Fluoride is understood in the level of Dental Hygiene education.

In conclusion, the DH regulations need to be revised to allow greater interaction between Dentists, Hygienists and PA Dental Consumers. The Public Health Dental Hygiene Practitioner Concept is LONG OVERDUE and we need "Dental" to be included in Health Care Reform.

Sincerely,

Frank T. Parris, Jr. RDH, BSDH.  
7305 Valley Ave  
Philadelphia, PA 19128  
215-482-5805  
[ftparris@hotmail.com](mailto:ftparris@hotmail.com)

2720

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

2008 SEP 30 AM 8:55

RECEIVED

CHRISTOPHER GROVICK, ESQ  
STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY  
PO Box 2649  
HARRISBURG, PA 17105-2649

2720

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

2008 SEP 30 AM 8:55

7-18-08 K  
RECEIVED

DEAR SIR,

IT IS URGENT THAT YOU SUPPORT THE CHANGES IN DH REGULATION TO ALLOW THE RDH BETTER ACCESS TO PA CONSUMERS VIA THESE CHANGES. IN MY WORK AND INTERVIEW EXPERIENCE, THE DENTIST CONTROLS, BY THE NATURE OF "HIS SMALL BUSINESS", THE KIND OF CARE ANY RDH MAY DELIVER TO HIS PATIENTS, AND TIME OF DAY IT CAN BE RENDERED. WITH CHANGES, AN RDH CAN WORK A FULL DAY SCHEDULE WHILE THE DENTIST "FLOATS BETWEEN" HIS TWO OFFICES AND KEEP MORE STAFF BUSY AND EXPAND RDH ACCESS TO PATIENTS BEFORE AND AFTER "DENTIST HOURS". ALSO, WHILE SOME DENTISTS EXPECT QUALITY CARE, OTHERS DEMAND QUANTITY OF PATIENTS "SEEN". AN RDH NEEDS TO BE VIEWED AS MORE LIKE AN RN AND LESS LIKE A DENTAL ASSISTANT WITH A LICENSE. THERE IS NO "CIVIL SERVICE" STATUS FOR THE RDH AS EXISTS FOR DENTISTS AND ASSISTANTS IN PUBLIC DENTAL HEALTH CARE. DENTAL ASSISTANTS ARE PROMOTING "POLISHING TEETH" AND "FLUORIDE TREATMENTS" IN RECENT PETITIONS TO THE STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY.

POLISHING TEETH PROVIDES NO ASPECT OF HEALTH TO "THE GUMS",  
AND THE BENEFITS AND HAZARDS OF "FLUORIDE" IS UNDERSTOOD IN  
THE LEVEL OF DENTAL HYGIENE EDUCATION.

IN CONCLUSION, THE DH REGULATIONS NEED TO BE REVISED TO  
ALLOW GREATER INTERACTION BETWEEN DENTISTS, HYGIENISTS AND  
~~PA~~ DENTAL CONSUMERS. THE PUBLIC HEALTH DENTAL HYGIENE  
PRACTITIONER CONCEPT IS LONG OVERDUE AND WE NEED "DENTAL"  
TO BE INCLUDED IN HEALTH CARE REFORM.

Sincerely  
Frank T Parris RDH, BSDH

FRANK T. PARRIS JR  
7305 VALLEY AVENUE  
PHILA PA 19128-3223  
215-482-5805  
FTPARRIS@HOTMAIL.COM