From: Ms JULIANNA GELINA [mailto:smilekeep@verizon.net] Sent: Thursday, September 25, 2008 6:52 AM To: ST-DENTISTRY@state.pa.us Cc: IRRC

Subject: Regulations regarding Senate Bill 455 - Public Health Dental Hygiene Practioner

Dear Sirs and Madams,

I would like to state my support for the proposed regulatory changes that permit expanded scope of practice for state licensed dental hygienists.

I have worked in public health settings as a dental hygienist for over seven years. I manage mobile dental services for children with poor or no access to dental care.

My experience testifies to the overwhelming need for the community to receive preventive care and lack of providers able to deliver it. Allowing qualified dental hygienists to deliver needed services within their scope of practice, makes sense. Increased prevention will improve the health of the community, reduce the need for emergent care and lower the cost of oral health care for the public.

Sincerely,

Judy Gelinas, RDH, BS Manager Ronald McDonald Care Mobile, Dental Program Philadelphia, PA

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