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Nov 16 2020  
Independent Regulatory  
Review Commission

November 16, 2020

The Honorable George D. Bedwick, Chairman  
Independent Regulatory Review Commission  
14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Harrisstown 2, 333 Market Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17101



Re: IRRC # 3228

Dear Chairman Bedwick:

The Pennsylvania Dental Hygienists' Association (PDHA), which represents the interests of over 9,000 Pennsylvania dental hygienists, is pleased to convey its support for the final regulation 16A-4633, Expansion of Practice Sites for the Public Health Dental Hygiene Practitioner.

PDHA first approached the State Board of Dentistry regarding this issue in March, 2016. We have followed the process closely and participated at every opportunity during the development of this regulation. Our goal is to expand access to oral health care and provide additional opportunities for education of the public about the benefits of oral health care. We believe this regulation allows us to assist more patients to connect with a "dental home" and increase access to quality oral health care for those who might not be able to obtain services from a traditional dental setting.

We urge the Commission to approve this regulation. We believe it will contribute to the improvement of the oral health of citizens of the Commonwealth.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

*Linda Straub-Bruce, RDH, BSEd, PHDHP*

Linda Straub-Bruce, RDH, BSEd, PHDHP  
President