



MAY - 7 2019

From: To: Christine Brehm ST. RegulatoryCounsel

Subject:

[External] PHOHP Rulemaking 16-A-4633 (PHDHP Practice Sites)

Date:

Tuesday, April 23, 2019 10:30:30 AM

Independent Regulatory
Review Commission

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Dear Regulatory Counsel,

On behalf of not only my profession but also my personal experiences, I am writing in support of this rulemaking.

I have been a Dental Hygienist for over 40 years as well as a PHDHP since 2017. While working in a FQHC I became well aware of the impact on the overall health of both adults and children given the opportunity to have both medical and dental services under one roof.

As you are well aware, children have multiple encounters with medical providers in their very formative years. To be able to have access to a dental professional within the medical facility will greatly enhance not only their overall health but also will address multiple barriers to care the underserved unfortunately are currently experiencing.

Additionally, including home care sites and day care sites will broaden the scope of services, again to those who are most vulnerable to the effects of dental disease. Prevention is crucial. Having multiple opportunities to access services that align with prevention and disease management has been proven to improve quality of life.

Currently there are hundreds of PHDHP's that are extremely underutilized. Expanding their scope of practice is a logical use of a workforce that is ready and willing to bring quality dental service, to those who are greatly in need.

In summary, I support rulemaking 16A-4633 Public Health Dental Hygiene Practitioner Practice Sites and respectfully requests acceptance of the rulemaking as proposed.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Chris Brehm-Stroman BSDH, PHDHP, MPH