

Testimony of Lorraine Klug, RDH, IPDH, Immediate Past President and Legislative Chair of the Maine Dental Hygienists Association speaking in favor of LD 2137: An Act To Join the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact.

Senator Bailey, Representative Perry and esteemed members of the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services. My name is Lorraine Klug and I am the Immediate Past President and Legislative Chair of the Maine Dental Hygienists' Association. I'm testifying today to encourage you to support LD 2137 regarding the dental hygienist and dentist compact.

This compact has currently passed in 3 states, is being heard in a number of states this session and is scheduled for more in the next session. They need 7 states to enact the compact and we are hoping to be the next state to join. This compact is from the collaboration of the American Dental Association, the American Dental Hygienist Association and the National Center for Interstate Compacts which is quite an accomplishment in itself. Many other professions have come up with compact agreements and it's time to add dentistry to that list to allow ease of moving from state to state to do the same job we have been educated and trained to perform. The states still have the ultimate control of their own scope and the licensees would still follow the statutes and rules of the state in which they are seeking licensure. Please support this legislation and help make licensure more portable moving from state to state.