

Melanie Liles
MDHA
LD 2030

Dear Members of the Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services Committee,
I'm writing as a licensed Maine Dental Hygienist to urge you to vote Ought to Pass (OTP) on LD 2030: An Act to Expand the Scope of Practice of Independent Practice Dental Hygienists

As a licensed dental hygienist in multiple states and choosing to relocate to Maine to provide needed preventative dental care, I support for IPDHs to be able to use local anesthesia and/or nitrous oxide. Currently, I personally am licensed for both anesthesia and nitrous, but feel confused as a IPDH getting ready to open their own practice and having to find a dentist to supervise the administration of either is frustrating. Passing LD 2030 will improve patient comfort, better patient compliance and pain-free periodontal care. LD 2030 will also help those patients with anxiety and hypersensitivity. Dental hygienists are highly educated and trained in anatomy, pharmacology, pain control and emergency management with required continuing education courses for license renewal. Passing LD 2030 will allow myself as an IPDH to provide pain-free procedures allowing for enhanced patient comfort and management without taking the time away from my patients to ask a supervising dentist for approval.

Please support access to preventive oral healthcare in Maine and Maine's Dental Hygienists, and vote OTP on LD 2030.

Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,
Melanie Liles RDH, IPDH, BS
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