

Cayford, Edna

From: Ashley Williams <cyr.ashley13@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2026 10:05 PM
To: Cmte HCIFS
Subject: Please Vote Ought Not To Pass (ONTP) LD 2206: An Act Expanding Access to Oral Health Care by Creating a New Path for Obtaining a License to Practice Dentistry

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This message originates from outside the Maine Legislature.

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 NOT to Pass (ONTP) on LD 2206: An Act Expanding Access to Oral Health Care by Creating a New Path for Obtaining a License to Practice Dentistry

I do not support internationally trained dentists practicing under an associate license because I believe it risks lowering uniform standards of care. Dentistry in the U.S. requires consistent training, oversight, and adherence to accredited clinical and safety standards. An associate license can create uneven preparedness and a two-tier system of care that patients may not fully understand. While internationally trained dentists are often highly capable, existing equivalency programs already provide a fair pathway that protects patient safety and public trust.

Please consider the safety of dental care for all Mainers and vote ONTP on LD 2206.

Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

Ashley Williams

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Dental Hygienist