



# SOUTHERN MAINE ORAL & MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY, P.A.

5/11/2021

Board Certified in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

The Honorable Heather Sanborn, Chair  
The Honorable Denise Tepler, Chair

Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance  
and Financial Services  
c/o Legislative Information Office  
100 State House Station  
Cross Building, Room 220  
Augusta, ME 04333

Re: Support for LD 1629

Dear Senator Sanborn, Representative Tepler and other Members of the Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee:

My name is Dr Richard Crawford, and I am a partner in the oral surgery group called Southern Maine Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery (SMOMS). Part of my responsibilities also lie with Maine Medical Center where I have been on staff for greater than 25 years, and do continue to take on Hospital & Trauma call.

Last Summer my partners and I first met with Dr Kris Cooper so that we could complete the process of interviewing and also understanding his short and long term goals. Certainly he and his family were motivated to come back to Maine after finalizing his training in Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery. Happily he will be joining us in July of this year and we are very excited to have this opportunity to work him. He is a great future asset to all of us here in Maine.

Dr Cooper's resume includes academic excellence at the University of Maine. This was followed by dental school at the University of Connecticut where he earned his DMD in 2015. He then enrolled in the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS) Residency Program at the University of Pittsburgh. Part of this 6 year post graduate residency training including him earning his Doctor of Medicine (MD) from the Pittsburg School of Medicine. While in medical school, Dr Cooper also continued to take OMFS hospital and trauma call, helping to fully support his training program. He will receive his OMFS certificate in June of 2021.

Other accomplishments with this 10 year post college training include:

Certified in Advance Cardiac Life Support since 2015  
Certified in Pediatric Advanced Life Support since 2015  
Certified in Advance Trauma Life Support since 2015  
Licensure with the Maine Board of Dental Practice since June 2019

Jeffrey B. Doss DDS

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Dr. Cooper's future professional goals include:

Hospital Staff Privileges at Maine Medical Center and Mercy Hospital here in Portland, where he would like to participate in Hospital and Trauma Call  
Becoming Board Certified in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery  
Becoming a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons  
Partnership in Southern Maine Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, PA

This professional list does not even touch the personal interests and rewards of returning to Maine with his wife and young family that are super excited to be closer to family and friends.

Ultimately, Dr Cooper would like to obtain his Medical License here in Maine. He is qualified and certainly well trained. I was flabbergasted to hear that because of the Maine Board of Licensure in Medicine's interpretation of statute he could be denied a medical license here in Maine. Wow, what a disappointment.

I urge you to support the future of Oral Surgery in Maine and ask you to vote in favor of LD 1629.

If any members of the Committee require any further information please to not hesitate to contact me through my Windham or Portland office.

Sincerely

Richard W Crawford, DMD

