

April 10, 2012

To: House Health and Human Services Committee

From: New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition

Re: SB 284 - 2012 as amended, establishing a certified public health dental hygienist in New Hampshire.

My name is Gail Brown and I am the Policy Director for the New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition.

The New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition is a state-wide diverse collaborative of organizations, agencies and individuals focusing on oral health education, prevention, access, workforce development, and advocacy aimed to promote optimal oral health for the people of New Hampshire. See attached.

Consistent with our mission and goals the New Hampshire Oral Health Coalition supports SB 284-2012, creating a certified public health dental hygienist, as a means to increase access to oral health services for New Hampshire residents especially those in underserved areas of the state.

We encourage the legislature to pass this bill and to continue the oral health workforce alternative discussions with a goal to increase access to oral health services within the state.

Thank you.

Gail T. Brown, Policy Director, NH Oral Health Coalition gbrown@nhoralhealth.org 603-892-1498

#4 Park Street, Suite 403 Concord, NH 03301

603-415-5550 www.nhoralhealth.org



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