

March 15, 2024

The Honorable Frank Burns, Chair House Professional Licensure Committee Pennsylvania House of Representatives 332 Main Capitol Building Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Representative Burns:

On behalf of the approximately 5,000 members of the Pennsylvania Dental Association (PDA), I would like to express our support for HB 1364, legislation that empowers the Commonwealth's professional licensing boards to render advisory opinions related to an act or regulations that are germane to each respective board. PDA appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback and respectfully requests that the Committee vote in favor of HB 1364.

PDA often hears the concerns of members who are practicing in good faith but sometimes have difficulty understanding and interpreting regulations from the State Board of Dentistry. They seek clarity on those regulations they find ambiguous so that they may practice with more assurances that they are complying and not inadvertently taking risks that may result in disciplinary charges that endangers their livelihood and ability to provide continuity of care to their patients. Enhanced transparency and guidance from licensing boards helps safeguard the public by increasing the likelihood that practitioners are adhering to regulations and meeting standards of care.

Should HB 1364 pass, PDA believes it is essential that licensing boards promulgate regulations for rendering *timely* advisory opinions after a request is made.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue. We appreciate your consideration of PDA's position and request for your support for HB 1364. Please contact me at (570) 283-0664, or rrgrossmandds@aol.com, if you have any questions or concerns. Or you may contact Marisa Swarney, PDA's director of government relations, at (717) 234-5941 x116, or mss@padental.org.

Sincerely,

Richard R. Grossman, DDS

Buhard G. Gersman DDS

President