

February 23, 2015

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 49

Chairwoman Pilcher-Cook and Members of the Committee:

I serve the poor in Garden City and Holcomb. They are fortunate to have dentists close enough to home in order to receive services. Many of the "frontier" counties north and west of us have no dentist or not enough dentists to serve the population. This bill would allow the Registered Dental Practitioners to fill that void.

Even in the counties where there is one dentist, families who have no vehicle or one that will not make it to highway speeds without falling apart cannot get to the office in that one town. Having a Registered Dental Practitioner in other towns would assist them in accessing services.

The more locations in which dental services are available, the better served they will be.

Since dental caries increase the risk of stroke and heart disease, this bill will help Kansans be healthier and save money for the state in the long run.

Please do pass this bill to gift us with Registered Dental Practitioners.

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