

Dr. Brett A. Roufs
400 Allison St
Newton, KS 67114

Re: SB 326

Committee Members,

I am writing in support of SB 326. As a member of the KDA and one who has personally spent multiple hours working with the involved parties in regards to the language in this bill I ask for your support of SB 326.

Last year a group of dentists and hygienists got together in hopes of coming to an agreement on language that we could introduce to address a small part of the access to care issue that is in the forefront of any dental discussion in our state. After many hours we came to the language of SB 326. As a practicing dentist in our state the care of our patients is very important to all of us. This legislation will allow hygienist to go out and help the dentists by doing initial exams and some very preliminary preventative treatments that could help and direct patients to dental offices where these patients would be able to seek the definitive treatment they need. The hygienists of the state could play an integral party of the dental team by seeing people in a non-traditional setting and directing these people to a dental office with the capabilities to see and treat the patients accordingly.

As a dentist who sponsored the very first Extended Care Permit hygienist in the state, I know that this type of hygienist can help a dental team to better serve our communities in Kansas. These hygienists have additional training and should work closely with their sponsoring dentist to develop a program to assist people get the care that they need and are seeking.

I write in support of SB 326 and thank you for your time in consideration of this bill.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brett A. Roufs