

## Abridged\* Responses to Survey - Board of Dentistry

\*A more complete version is available on request

Total responses: 241 (of which 151 + were tallied)

<b>Highest Compliment</b>	ability to monitor profession on behalf of licensees - 97	ability to streamline continuing education process - 23	ability to keep profession from criticism because of bad actors - 26	None - 8
<b>Biggest Complaint</b>	board's response to unlicensed practice - 13	lack of information - 9	licensing fees too high; regulations too strict - each 4	None - 75
<p><i>Dentists' complaints</i> - concerns about those, including denturists, that they see as practicing outside the scope of training and practice.  <i>Dental hygienists' complaints</i> - feel they need more representation on board or a separate board because their employers are the board majority and restrain their trade. Also feel that more people who are not currently served could be served with changes in their scope of practice.  <i>Denturists' complaints</i> - dentists' control of board and restrictions on ability to provide dentures over implants and requiring mandatory referrals for partial dentures..Different testing requirements for removable prosthodontics.</p>				
<p><b>Reasons the board is important:</b> (among the responses, synthesized)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>protects public health by maintaining a standard of professionalism, monitoring competence, credentials, professional ethics, accountability</li> <li>avenue for dental professionals to receive information about new technologies</li> <li>peer review process helps avoid litigation, saves money</li> </ul>				
<b>Public Health</b> - 5	<b>Public Welfare</b> - 4	<b>Public Safety</b> - 23		<b>All /combination</b> - 105
<b>Scope of Practice:</b>	<b>Too Narrow</b> - 44	<b>Too Broad</b> -- 6	<b>Just Right</b> 97 (majority of dentists vs. others checked)	
<p><b>Problems with other professions' scope of practice</b> - Most of the complaints were internal - denturists and dental hygienists vis-a-vis dentists. Dental hygienists also were concerned about dental assistants or auxiliaries being provided too much authority.  <i>Other boards/professions were:</i> Board of Barbers &amp; Cosmetologists (re: teeth whitening) and former problems with Board of Medical Examiners</p>				
<p><b>What laws/regulations have caused the most problems?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Several dentists said the laws allowing denturistry to practice</li> <li>One mentioned Medicaid procedures and regulations</li> <li>Many dentists expressed concern about splitting up the professions currently on the Board of Dentistry, removing some, or making other major changes that impacts the current "team" approach.</li> <li>Dental hygienists commented that the direct supervision requirements decreased the number of people served. They noted their training for local anesthesia was similar to dentists and should not have to be under direct supervision. Some requested a scope of practice that allows diagnosis, administering local anesthetic without a dentist present, expanded locations for applying sealants</li> </ul>				
<b>Nonlicensee comments</b>	Board of Dentistry Necessary for: Public Health - 59, Public Safety - 27, Public Welfare - 31			