



February 4, 2022

Representative Ortiz  
State Capitol  
Room 513  
Juneau, AK 99801

Representative Ortiz

The Alaska Dental Society supports HB295.

HB295 will transfer radiologic (x-ray) registration and inspection from the Dental Board to the Department of Health and Social Services. At one time there were private radiologic inspectors available for hire by private dentists but recent years have seen all of the approved inspectors either retire or move away. Consequently dentists in Alaska are unable to meet the current requirements for inspection of their x-ray equipment. The Department has qualified inspectors on staff and will be able to provide the necessary inspections to insure public safety.

HB295 will also reestablish the dental specialty license. This license was deleted in 2012 in the belief this would be part of a larger national trend. The trend did not materialize leaving Alaska as one of the few states without a specialty license. This has left the dental board without the statutory authority to regulate dental specialty advertising resulting in false and misleading advertising. Dentists are currently advertising as specialists not recognized by the specialty commission or advertising as specialists when they do not have the necessary training.

Sincerely,

*David Logan*

David Logan, DDS  
Executive Director, Alaska Dental Society