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Supportive Testimony SB2

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I am a hygienist in Great falls and I utilize a Limited Access Permit at several sites in Great Falls including the alternative high school. With the use of portable equipment I am able to deliver dental hygiene services to this high risk population. Of which, 49% of the students qualify for free and reduced lunch. This equipment takes about 45 min. to set up and is relatively inexpensive to purchase (\$4,200). It performs as well as the equipment I use in the dental office.

What I have found is there are several barriers to dental care for these students. Examples are finances, transportation, ignorance of parents to seek preventative care, and lack of understanding how to access dental care, to name a few. When dental care is delivered at the school site you break down several of these barriers.

If the bill does pass, I hope to serve more kids in other schools and I believe that other dental hygienists with a LAP will also step up to help Montana children. Nationally, the work force behind the sealant programs is the hygienist. This bill moves "access to care" forward. I know because I see it; I live it.

Please support SB2

Respectfully submitted,



Kim Dunlap, RDH, BS, LAP