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To: Members of the Vermont state Senate and House of Representatives
From: Terry Batliner, DDS, MBA
Subject: Vermont Technical College LDP curriculum
Date: February 19, 2014

Dear Senators and Representatives:

I have reviewed the proposed curriculum for the licensed dental practitioner program at the Vermont Technical College. I understand this program is intended to provide experienced dental hygienists with the knowledge to practice as licensed dental practitioners as proposed in the Vermont bill. It is also my understanding that the program will be 12 months in duration and will require the students to be fully engaged in education as full time professional students.

This program looks reasonable to me. I was also pleased to learn that in order for students to complete the program the students should be required to complete a specific number of each type of procedure within the scope of practice and they should also be required to pass a competency exam for each procedure. If a student cannot meet the requirements within the defined curriculum, then he/she should be held over so that they can meet the number requirement of each procedure and the quality requirement as demonstrated by examination. This approach will help ensure that every student graduating from the program is competent.

I commend the leadership of VTC for their efforts to establish this program. I am certain it will improve access to dental services for the underserved populations of Vermont and New England.

Sincerely,



Terry Batliner, DDS, MBA
Associate Director
The Center for Native Oral Health Research