

- SUBJECT:** Testimony by members of the State Board of Dental Examiners
- COMMITTEE:** Public Health — committee substitute recommended
- VOTE:** 10 ayes — Kolkhorst, Naishtat, Coleman, Collier, S. Davis, Guerra, S. King, Laubenberg, J.D. Sheffield, Zedler
- 0 nays
- 1 absent — Cortez
- WITNESSES:** For — Gwen Mitchell and Lucille Zalud, Texans for Dental Reform; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Rick Black, Texas Dental Association; Lisa Jacob, Texas Academy of Pediatric Dentistry; Clara Mitchell, John Nix, Melissa Nix, and Sue Terry, Texans for Dental Reform; Jim Moriarty; Susan Putthoff, Texas Academy of General Dentistry; Susan Ross; Jim Rudd, Texas Society of Oral Maxillofacial Surgery)
- Against — None
- On — Glenn Parker, Texas State Board of Dental Examiners; (*Registered, but not testify:* Julie Hildebrand and Lisa Jones, Texas State Board of Dental Examiners)
- BACKGROUND:** The State Board of Dental Examiners, created in 1897, enforces and monitors compliance with the Dental Practice Act, licenses dentists and dental hygienists, registers dental labs, investigates complaints about dental practitioners, and provides peer assistance. The board's 15 members serve staggered six-year terms and are appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. A third of the Board turns over every two years.
- DIGEST:** CSHB 405 would prohibit a member of the State Board of Dental Examiners from expressing an oral or written opinion in a suit involving a health care liability claim against a person licensed or registered by the board for injury or death of a patient or for a violation of the standard of care or the commission of malpractice.

The bill take effect September 1, 2013.