

1. WHAT IS YOUR PROFESSION?

		Response Percent	Response Count
DENTIST		69.1%	462
DENTAL HYGIENIST		28.1%	188
DENTURIST		2.8%	19
		answered question	669
		skipped question	0

2. HOW LONG HAVE YOU PRACTICED IN MONTANA?

		Response Percent	Response Count
NEVER		8.5%	57
LESS THAN 1 YEAR		6.3%	42
1-5 YEARS		20.9%	140
5-10 YEARS		14.5%	97
10-20 YEARS		16.0%	107
OVER 20 YEARS		33.8%	226
		answered question	669
		skipped question	0

**ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IC
JANUARY 20, 2012
Exhibit 6**

3. DO YOU SUPPORT RETAINING THE CURRENT BOARD OF DENTISTRY COMPRISED OF 5 DENTISTS, 2 DENTAL HYGIENISTS, 1 DENTURIST, AND 2 PUBLIC MEMBERS?

		Response Percent	Response Count
YES		70.6%	472
NO		23.8%	159
DON'T KNOW		5.7%	38
	COMMENTS		215
	answered question		669
	skipped question		0

4. DO YOU SUPPORT CREATING TWO BOARDS: A BOARD COMPRISED OF DENTISTS AND PUBLIC MEMBERS AND A SEPARATE BOARD COMPRISED OF DENTAL HYGIENISTS, DENTURISTS AND PUBLIC MEMBERS?

		Response Percent	Response Count
YES		74.6%	144
NO		11.9%	23
DON'T KNOW		13.5%	26
	COMMENT		56
	answered question		193
	skipped question		476

5. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

	Response Count
	143
answered question	143
skipped question	526

Page 1, Q3. DO YOU SUPPORT RETAINING THE CURRENT BOARD OF DENTISTRY COMPRISED OF 5 DENTISTS, 2 DENTAL HYGIENISTS, 1 DENTURIST, AND 2 PUBLIC MEMBERS?

1	Two boards for the dental profession is not needed. Since all these are dental professionals there is only one board needed for all. Please leave the board as it is!!!	Nov 21, 2011 5:47 PM
2	It takes a tremendous amount of work and effort to build a dental team to provide a good service to the public. Please don't tear it apart.	Nov 21, 2011 5:34 PM
3	I support keeping one board of dentistry; Why do we need to make two boards? What good would it do to create another board and populate it with non dentists???? Is this entire action being driven by some particular individual who wants more influence on the board??? It makes more sense to me to consider altering the representation on our current board; rather than creating a whole new board. Think of the costs; think of the potential for conflicts; better to have one board and get the conflicts ironed out within that single entity.	Nov 21, 2011 5:21 PM
4	I can't believe breaking up the dental is even a consideration. What about boards protecting the public health and safety? If the denturists had their own board, they could change their scope of practice to do whatever they wanted. Not only could they make removable dentures and partials over implants, they could place the implants!!! Why not crown and bridge? If they want to do dentistry, they should go to dental school.	Nov 21, 2011 5:03 PM
5	It has worked to the publics best interest for the last 38 years I have watched it...changing it may not be as ideal as it sounds.	Nov 21, 2011 4:21 PM
6	the board of dentistry job is to protect the public. Having two boards dealing with the same area of the body is unnecessary and expensive. The services provided should be allowed, IF THE PROVIDER IS TRAINED TO DO THE SERVICES. IF THE EDUCATIONAL TRAINING IS NOT PRESENT, THE PROVIDER SHOULD BE EXCLUDED FROM PROVIDING THE SERVICES UNTIL PROPERLY TRAINED. I ALSO THINK THAT THE BOARD SHOULD HAVE ONE MORE DENTIST MEMBER AND IF A BOARD MEMBER IS NOT ABLE TO MAKE THE MAJORITY OF THE MEETINGS IN A YEAR, THE MEMBER SHOULD BE REPLACED. THANK YOU. ED LAWLER DDS BILLINGS, MT	Nov 21, 2011 4:05 PM
7	As a Montana Dentist, I believe the board is more able to make decisions regarding dentistry and the public by those who are actively practicing in the profession, have had years of experience in the profession, and have the proper education, training, and continuing devotion to the profession. Making judgement calls without experience is risky at best if relying only on intuition, assumptions, and briefings on certain subjects. I feel it is in the public's best interest to have a single board made up of competent professionals who have that necessary experience and training to make decisions regarding the dental health of the public and/or an individual.	Nov 21, 2011 4:04 PM
8	In my opinion the dentists want to reduce the quality and quantity of education for the dental hygiene student to provide for themselves cheaper hygienists. Overall, I find that hygienists want more stringent regulation for more education of dental hygiene students. It is in our best interest to improve hyiene.	Nov 21, 2011 3:26 PM
9	The Hygienists and denturists haven't the education needed to make decision on	Nov 21, 2011 1:17 PM

Page 1, Q3. DO YOU SUPPORT RETAINING THE CURRENT BOARD OF DENTISTRY COMPRISED OF 5 DENTISTS, 2 DENTAL HYGIENISTS, 1 DENTURIST, AND 2 PUBLIC MEMBERS?

Issues	
<p>10 I am not necessarily in favor of creating 2 separate boards, however the current representation is not a fair one. Dentistry consistently pushes through it's own agenda and overrules any dissenting views. The purpose of the board is to protect the public, not advance the individual professions. Unfortunately, all the professions represented on this board seem to lose sight of that fact, and it becomes a perpetual territorial battle.</p>	<p>Nov 21, 2011 11:06 AM</p>
<p>11 note, especially, dental hygienists work under direct/general supervision of dentists...to have their own board and authority to make their own rules opens the door once again for conflict with what are and are not allowed functions...been down this road before...</p>	<p>Nov 21, 2011 9:49 AM</p>
<p>12 It serves only the dentists</p>	<p>Nov 21, 2011 9:15 AM</p>
<p>13 The board is mandated to protect the people of Montana. Hygienists and Denturists work under the license of the dentist. It makes no sense to separate the boards, as well as the expense to the state to maintain counsel, and auxillary support staff for these new boards. It just doesn't make common sense to separate them.</p>	<p>Nov 21, 2011 9:13 AM</p>
<p>14 Thoughts of dissolving the current board and setting up a new board so hygienists and denturists can have their own board are irresponsible and a danger to the public. It is also not fiscally responsible and simply put...ridiculous. Montana is the only state in which there is not a majority of dentists sitting on the board. This proposal is so frustrating!</p>	<p>Nov 20, 2011 9:40 PM</p>
<p>15 The current board structure needs to be maintained to protect patients and their dental health.</p>	<p>Nov 20, 2011 8:52 PM</p>
<p>16 Most professions have their own boards. Dental hygiene has enough licensees to support its own board and less time would be wasted on complaints against dentists. The current BOD is very biased in favor of dentists and therefore restrains denturists and hygienists from serving the public as they are licensed to do.</p>	<p>Nov 20, 2011 7:11 PM</p>
<p>17 Dental practice is dependent on all the members working as a team to best provide services to the patient. Although denturist are not typically part of a dental team there lack of official academic institutions supporting there profession necessitates their regulatory supervision by the dental profession. Starting independant boards would not only cause duplication of duties, increased in cost to administer board duties, and have potential for significant conflict in regulatory jurisdiction. Montana is already the only state without dentists being a majority on the board hence a fair balance of members already exists.</p>	<p>Nov 20, 2011 6:26 PM</p>
<p>18 I would like to see the dental hygienist have their own board since we are a licensed profession.</p>	<p>Nov 20, 2011 5:53 PM</p>
<p>19 The board needs significant overhaul, but breaking it up would only result in continual interboard squabbling due to the overlapping responsibilities</p>	<p>Nov 20, 2011 5:20 PM</p>

Page 1, Q3. DO YOU SUPPORT RETAINING THE CURRENT BOARD OF DENTISTRY COMPRISED OF 5 DENTISTS, 2 DENTAL HYGIENISTS, 1 DENTURIST, AND 2 PUBLIC MEMBERS?

20	I hold an active license in Montana but currently I am practicing dental hygiene in Nevada. Therefore, I am not current on the representation of dental hygiene by the Board.	Nov 20, 2011 12:28 PM
21	I think it is unnecessary, and fiscally irresponsible to have two seperate boards. I feel we are fairly represented by the current board and creating a second one would cause a possible increase in our current licensing fees as well as much confusion regarding what is best for the profession as a whole.	Nov 20, 2011 11:33 AM
22	I have worked in a variety of offices with a variety of Dentists. With a very good working relationship the Dentists have relied on my expertise as well as me relying on them to answer questions that I have had. I believe this house bill is one of the first steps to SOME hygienists changing our status to an independent status. Wrong move! That is also what the denturists want... no supervision by the Dentist's. If my research is correct, Montana is the only state who allows the denturists to practice outside of a dental office. At least in Montana they have some regulation being on the same board with Dentists. I have been employed in offices that have done their own dentures/partials with the use of labs and then other offices referring to denturists... not always with the best results. Many times the Dentists would have to either discuss changes w/ the denturist or tell the patient what they needed to discuss with the denturist. I am in favor of keeping the board the way it stands.	Nov 19, 2011 8:55 PM
23	Dentists are the backbone of the profession in training and experience and should have more weight on the board that any other entity.	Nov 19, 2011 4:11 PM
24	The Montana dental board is the only board in the country that does not have a majority of dentists on its own board. If the board is further divided the health and safety of the public will be at great risk. Costs not only to the dentists will rise but also legal issues will arise when auxiliary boards pass statutes that conflict with current law will result in rising costs to defend.	Nov 19, 2011 10:11 AM
25	Let's stay on a steady course with one board governing the rules and regulations for dentistry.	Nov 18, 2011 4:42 PM
26	in best interest of the patient	Nov 18, 2011 4:36 PM
27	I would like to emphatically propose increasing the Dentist membership to six (6) members.	Nov 18, 2011 2:43 PM
28	This organization is well-founded. Dentists should continue to lead the board of dentistry due to their advanced training/education and due to the need for direct and indirect supervision of dental hygienists in practice by a general dentist. For those hygienists who are seeking more autonomy and freedom in practice, I would strongly recommend they further their education by attending dental school and receiving their DDS or DMD.	Nov 18, 2011 12:38 PM
29	I think that creating two separate boards is a great opportunity for all professionals to be equally represented.	Nov 18, 2011 12:35 PM
30	Montana is one of only a few states that doesn't have a majority of dentists on the board of dentistry.	Nov 18, 2011 7:33 AM

Page 1, Q3. DO YOU SUPPORT RETAINING THE CURRENT BOARD OF DENTISTRY COMPRISED OF 5 DENTISTS, 2 DENTAL HYGIENISTS, 1 DENTURIST, AND 2 PUBLIC MEMBERS?

31	Board membership should reflect memberships of each association	Nov 17, 2011 9:34 PM
32	Get rid of the denturists and all their headaches	Nov 17, 2011 9:30 PM
33	Do you just get tired of all the headaches hygienists and denturists cause...	Nov 17, 2011 9:28 PM
34	Get rid of the denturists. Bunch of rougue cowboys they are	Nov 17, 2011 9:26 PM
35	Inaccurate representation of professionals involved	Nov 17, 2011 9:25 PM
36	I would like to see a board that had 4 dentist , 3 dental hygienist, 1 denturist, and 2 public members . I feel this would best serve the dental consumer. I think the dental consumer would be better served with a board member form the insurance industry also.	Nov 17, 2011 9:24 PM
37	Hygienists and denturists should represent themselves	Nov 17, 2011 9:23 PM
38	I am all for it.	Nov 17, 2011 9:15 PM
39	Looks like a good cross section of our profession	Nov 17, 2011 9:14 PM
40	Why should us dentists have to provide an umbrella for none dentists. Let the other entities fend for themselves	Nov 17, 2011 9:09 PM
41	Doesn't represent current workforce	Nov 17, 2011 9:01 PM
42	The percentage breakdown does not represent a true percentage of perfessionals in this field	Nov 17, 2011 8:29 PM
43	It would be absolutely wrong to divide the Board of Dentists. Please use common sense and keep it the way it is.	Nov 17, 2011 7:45 PM
44	Hygienists should govern themselves. I have been a full time RDH since 1973 in Calif	Nov 17, 2011 7:14 PM
45	PLEASE don't break up the board of dentistry!!	Nov 17, 2011 6:46 PM
46	Dental hygiene and denturist professions, derive the standards of care by which they practice from dentistry. Licensed dentists have the highest level of training by which to judge an govern the care being provided by these auxilliary professions. If the representation on the board is deemed inadequate for these professionals to be governed fairly, we should simply add more representatives to the existing board from the other areas.	Nov 17, 2011 5:00 PM
47	The current board of dentistry represents only their interest and not what is right or well for the public. It would be in the best interest that the public have freedom of choice in their denture needs.	Nov 17, 2011 3:03 PM
48	Dentistry should be regulated by a dental board that is comprised of a majority of dentists. Auxillary personnel do not have the training to regulate themselves. The cost of duplication of services and the conflicts that will arise from separation of the boards will result in increased costs and potential harm to the public!	Nov 17, 2011 2:51 PM

Page 1, Q3. DO YOU SUPPORT RETAINING THE CURRENT BOARD OF DENTISTRY COMPRISED OF 5 DENTISTS, 2 DENTAL HYGIENISTS, 1 DENTURIST, AND 2 PUBLIC MEMBERS?

49	Needs to be more balanced with equal amount of dentist, dental hygienist's and denturist and the public members.	Nov 17, 2011 1:32 PM
50	There is not enough representation for the professions of dental hygiene and denturity.	Nov 17, 2011 1:29 PM
51	2 boards=2budets	Nov 17, 2011 12:45 PM
52	The number of hygienists and dentists on the board should reflect the number of practicing hygienists and dentists in the state of Montana.	Nov 17, 2011 12:01 PM
53	I do not believe that Denturists and Dental Hygienists are being equally represented on the current Board of Dentistry. The Board of Dentistry is meant to serve and protect the citizens of Montana; not to protect Dentists' income by limiting the publics' access to competeing providers of dental care.	Nov 17, 2011 11:51 AM
54	I don't see how dividing the boards will end up creating conflicts that can only be solved by the legislature. Doesn't make sense to me.	Nov 17, 2011 11:17 AM
55	I currently am living outside of MT.	Nov 17, 2011 9:53 AM
56	What a thoughtless, unworkable proposal. In my practice, and I hope all practices, it is what is best for the patient. This proposal is definately not what is best for the patient.	Nov 17, 2011 9:23 AM
57	Not the way it stands. Dental Hygienists need more of a voice.	Nov 17, 2011 8:56 AM
58	The dentist especially, the general dentist, is the primary care provider. He is ultimately responsible for the care and treatment of patients.	Nov 17, 2011 7:58 AM
59	I do not have enough information due, to my limited exposure, to formulate an informed decision	Nov 17, 2011 7:50 AM
60	as in other states unfair representation leads to trade restraint against those of minority representation.	Nov 17, 2011 7:22 AM
61	We do not need two more boards.Main problems are doctor related.	Nov 16, 2011 10:37 PM
62	I want to keep a positive relationship between all members and professions. I feel that some professions are not represented in a fair way with the current board.	Nov 16, 2011 9:41 PM
63	I feel making separate boards will not improve patient care or safety	Nov 16, 2011 9:29 PM
64	We all need to work together as a team and do what is best.	Nov 16, 2011 8:57 PM
65	I served on the Board of Dentistry for five years and know that it is essential for the responsible regulation of dentistry and the dental health of Montana's citizens. Otherwise, there's no informed control of regulations. While I was on the Board, there were disciplinary actions which had to be addressed and the Board of Dentistry is the right vehicle to adjudicate professionals in the dental field and to ensure the dental health of Montanans.	Nov 16, 2011 8:03 PM

Page 1, Q3. DO YOU SUPPORT RETAINING THE CURRENT BOARD OF DENTISTRY COMPRISED OF 5 DENTISTS, 2 DENTAL HYGIENISTS, 1 DENTURIST, AND 2 PUBLIC MEMBERS?

66	Dental oversight should not be divided because of different scope of practice definitions! Division will only lead to turf wars and public confusion.	Nov 16, 2011 8:03 PM
67	A separate board would only increase conflict. The current board allows representation of all facets of dental care. Creating another board would be a disruption to business at hand. I do not believe the dental hygienists or denturists need to be setting and making their own rules as to function in the dental setting. I have heard that many denturists are not only taking radiographs but also diagnosing. As a hygienist we are not to diagnose. I do not think we need to create a separate board for hygienists and denturists.	Nov 16, 2011 7:45 PM
68	My practice has been in Quincy, Washington for 41 years. Perhaps my comments are not pertinent to Montana's Questions. I support the present board.	Nov 16, 2011 7:24 PM
69	If a new board can be created that will increase public safety and quality of care, then it should be created. I do not believe creation of a new board will do either. Why increase costs via a new board without a public benefit?	Nov 16, 2011 7:23 PM
70	The current board make up allows dentists and hygienists to work together to protect the public. Splitting the board into more than one board will make dentists and hygienists work against each other deciding who can do what. Significant problems governing overlapping professions would ensue. Also, an increase of the state budget to mitigate the conflicts created by splitting the board of dentistry should be expected. I don't think the state should waste tax dollars or money collected from dentists and hygienists dealing with problems created by the two boards.	Nov 16, 2011 6:59 PM
71	The board needs to remain the same.	Nov 16, 2011 6:36 PM
72	I strongly feel that dentists should have a majority, rather than a 5 to 5 situation--but DEFINITELY NOT separate boards as is being proposed.	Nov 16, 2011 6:36 PM
73	I believe that dentistry needs to be one board just as we are in private and public practice. If there are problems on the current board, it sounds more like a personality issue more than anything. We don't need to segregate and create more complex and ununified issues of dentistry.	Nov 16, 2011 6:07 PM
74	I don't believe that Boards are legitimate under the US constitution...I believe consumers should be responsible, not government to make certain dentistry is practiced ethically.	Nov 16, 2011 5:01 PM
75	-Dentistry is best provided from a team approach - the public receives the highest level of care with this system -Dentistry and dental hygiene are components of dentistry, and therefore, a board of dentistry comprised in part of dentists needs to be the overseeing body for dentists, hygienists, and denturists. It was never intended to have hygienists in independent practice, and this is largely why some hygienists are advocates of the board splitting. This would not add any benefit for the public, and in many ways would be detrimental to the public in terms of the care they are receiving. - Splitting the board will rise costs for licensing, exams, etc.	Nov 16, 2011 4:40 PM

Page 1, Q3. DO YOU SUPPORT RETAINING THE CURRENT BOARD OF DENTISTRY COMPRISED OF 5 DENTISTS, 2 DENTAL HYGIENISTS, 1 DENTURIST, AND 2 PUBLIC MEMBERS?

76	Not in favor of the dental hygiene license fees increasing if the new board system is implemented.	Nov 16, 2011 4:23 PM
77	Two boards would undoubtedly cost the taxpayers of Montana more in legal fees. This move would not do anything to improve the access to care or quality of care for Montanans	Nov 16, 2011 4:09 PM
78	I DO NOT SUPPORT HYGIENISTS AND DENTURISTS HAVING THEIR OWN BOARD. AS IT STANDS NOW, THEY CAN NOT PRACTICE WITH OUT OUR SUPERVISION.	Nov 16, 2011 3:52 PM
79	Not because it will increase fees for existing dentists, but because we should all be held to the same standards if we are performing the same procedures. The only way the standards will be the same is if the board we report to is the same.	Nov 16, 2011 3:42 PM
80	With the fiscal hardships that are upon us there is absolutely no reason to add a another level of bureaucracy and funding to that wich already exists.	Nov 16, 2011 3:07 PM
81	It has been fine from what I have experienced so far, I don't know any different.	Nov 16, 2011 2:58 PM
82	Dentists should direct the profession of Dentistry In the State of Montana. Hygientsts and Denturists who wish to direct the profession of Dentistry in the State of Montana are free to attend Dental school and become Dentists.	Nov 16, 2011 11:43 AM
83	In my opinion, this does not provide equal representation. Regardless of the fact that the board addresses more claims pertaining to dentists, there should be an equal amount of representation from all aspects of the dental profession to establish unity within the field of dentistry from the board level all the way down each individual dental practice.	Nov 16, 2011 11:40 AM
84	It makes absolutely no sense to have two seperate boards. It will increase costs for tax payers and will created confusion for the public. Dentistry includes all treatment that is performed in the mouth why on earth would it make sense to break up the board of Dentistry into two boards....it just doesn't make any sense at all.	Nov 16, 2011 11:14 AM
85	I would like to see equal representation of all dental professionals on the Board of Dentistry	Nov 16, 2011 10:06 AM
86	I cannot believe this is a consideration. Dentists need to be on the same board as hygienists and denturists to protect the public. Dentists are the only professionals that are adeqately trained to diagnose and treat dental and periodontal disease. Because of this, dentists need to be the majority of this board	Nov 16, 2011 9:57 AM
87	It would be a terrible mistake to have hygienists and denturists have a separate board. They need to be monitored by the experts in the field (dentists). Their training is far to limited to govern themselves	Nov 16, 2011 9:49 AM
88	The board should be comprised of a majority of dentists. \They have the best educational qualifications.to serve on a "Board of Dentistry"and to deliver the best dental care	Nov 16, 2011 7:30 AM

Page 1, Q3. DO YOU SUPPORT RETAINING THE CURRENT BOARD OF DENTISTRY COMPRISED OF 5 DENTISTS, 2 DENTAL HYGIENISTS, 1 DENTURIST, AND 2 PUBLIC MEMBERS?

89	The current makeup of the board is such that there is no majority of dentists overall in the board. This is the only dental board in the United States that does not have a majority of dentists. The costs of creating 2 separate boards will result potentially in violations of legal practices of dentistry by the hygienists and denturists as they may be free to set what they can treat and diagnose. The creation of 2 dental boards will 1) create confusion as to where dental board complaints can be directed and 2) may result in costly litigation between the 2 board, ultimately costing the state more money to fund committees to investigated complaints.	Nov 16, 2011 7:24 AM
90	Retired	Nov 16, 2011 7:03 AM
91	For public safety (based on dentist-level knowledge of care there should be a majority of dentists on the board.	Nov 15, 2011 7:59 PM
92	The Board of Dentistry is a time proven institution that has operated with ethics	Nov 15, 2011 7:37 PM
93	Two boards create public confusion and another layer of bureaucracy. The two board philosophy could be handled by internal committees within a single board.	Nov 15, 2011 5:27 PM
94	comparing the total number of licensed dentists, hygienists, denturists, there should be more dentists on the board. especially since there are many more dental specialists that are not even represented ie) about 20 oral surgeons, not 1 on the board, many more periodontists, orthodontists, endodontists, and not 1 on the board. How do denturists, think that they should have more?	Nov 15, 2011 2:52 PM
95	Why would we not want to work together on issues? "Together we stand, divided we fall?"	Nov 15, 2011 2:25 PM
96	The majority of the board should consist of the group that has the most education/ training and medical knowledge. This ensures the health and well being of the public that it represents.	Nov 15, 2011 1:42 PM
97	The board is a time proven, cost effective body to best maintain the safety and well being of dental patients of Montana. The existing Board can also best limit the liability of the profession.	Nov 15, 2011 11:29 AM
98	It is imperative that the dental board remain as composed now to protect the public and dental patients in the state of Montana.	Nov 15, 2011 11:04 AM
99	We actually need more dentists on our board. Hygienists and denturists need to be governed by the experts in the field. I'm am one of 10 periodontists in the state. We probably know and see more than anyone the good work and the not so good work done by hygienists. Many are so good at what they do. Many unfortunately are not. Experts in dentistry (dentists) must remain on the board to adequately supervise the auxillary staff.	Nov 15, 2011 8:49 AM
100	It is very important that the Board of Dentistry be maintained as is for patient health and well-being. Changing the current board composition will not improve access to care and will limit the ability of the dentist to oversee comprehensive patient care, which is vital to overal dental health and well-being.	Nov 15, 2011 8:47 AM

Page 1, Q3. DO YOU SUPPORT RETAINING THE CURRENT BOARD OF DENTISTRY COMPRISED OF 5 DENTISTS, 2 DENTAL HYGIENISTS, 1 DENTURIST, AND 2 PUBLIC MEMBERS?

101	Terrible idea. We are not trained adequately to govern ourselves.	Nov 15, 2011 8:32 AM
102	Montana is the only state in the country where the board is not a majority dentists. This is already concerning because dentists are the only professionals adequately trained to diagnose and treat all aspects of dentistry. It is quite scary that I could be judged on something that I am an expert in by a majority of people that don't have even close to my level of training. In my opinion there should be at least one more dentist than non dentists as dentists are the experts in their field. Also, the costs of having an additional board are ridiculous. There would be so much redundancy. Denturists and hygienists would have no one to answer too if they had no board members who are dentists. It's absurd that this is even getting attention!	Nov 15, 2011 8:28 AM
103	Strongly in favor of keeping the dental board together. We also need the dentist on the board to be a majority like other states in the United States of America	Nov 15, 2011 7:17 AM
104	The profession of Dental Hygiene as well as Denturity has been poorly represented for years. These professions have to literally fight the political powers of MDA which have too much influence over the decisions that this board makes in relation to matters that pertain to Dental Hygiene and Denturity. Almost all Boards within the state of Montana regulate the profession they represent instead of being regulated by their employers. There are almost equal number of hygienists and dentists, and yet we are outnumbered 5-2 in representation. The animosity toward denturity and dental hygiene has long been a blight on this Board, and it has been a political strong arm for far too long. It is time to let the professions of Dental Hygiene and Denturity regulate themselves. I don't think our professions should pay for the increasing costs of investigating dentists, paying for their PAP impairment programs, and paying legal fees for most of the complaints which historically have been against dentists, not dental hygienists. The facts historically prove that dental hygiene has not cost much in complaints. I support the Board of Dental Providers enthusiastically and whole heartedly!!!	Nov 14, 2011 10:42 PM
105	Functions well, although a few disagree.	Nov 14, 2011 9:39 PM
106	The board of dentistry is to oversee all oral health, and does not or should not be split.	Nov 14, 2011 7:42 PM
107	Too much bureaucracy to have multiple boards that cover the same profession.	Nov 14, 2011 6:06 PM
108	The Board of Dentistry must include all aspects of the dental profession. The hygienists fall under the dentists license and it is not appropriate to have them making decisions on the practice of dentistry without having dentist representation on the same board. If left unregulated, the denturists will likely increase their scope of practice and put the health of the patients in jeopardy.	Nov 14, 2011 6:03 PM
109	I am concerned about hygienists not being on the same board with the dentists. This is not a control issue for me but one of common sense. Hygienists are an integral part of each dental office providing a valuable service in assisting in the education and treatment of periodontal disease. Dentistry and dental hygiene go hand in hand . To have an autonomus board where employees make rules for employers is only destined to further the divide between the professions that has	Nov 14, 2011 5:53 PM

Page 1, Q3. DO YOU SUPPORT RETAINING THE CURRENT BOARD OF DENTISTRY COMPRISED OF 5 DENTISTS, 2 DENTAL HYGIENISTS, 1 DENTURIST, AND 2 PUBLIC MEMBERS?

been perpetuated by only a few. If the function of the board is indeed public protection it is best served by keeping dentists and hygienists together. As for the denturists there is no way to appease this group. I know, I tried and for my consideration and openmindedness concerning their profession I was threatened and named in a lawsuit.

110	It is the safest most cost effective way to ensure public safety	Nov 14, 2011 5:46 PM
111	Breaking up the Board will increase administrative costs, weaken patient protection and do nothing to increase access to dental care. Our patients deserve a uniform, comprehensive approach to their dental care under one regulatory board.	Nov 14, 2011 5:13 PM
112	Lowering standard of care is never in the public interest, and that is surely what this new proposal would do.	Nov 14, 2011 4:47 PM
113	It is the only way to assure quality care to Montanans by qualified providers	Nov 14, 2011 4:43 PM
114	The State Board has served the patients we treat as well as the Dental Profession very well for many years. The board has been very flexible about including the various Dental professionals who help make up the Dental team that helps treat the patients in Montana.	Nov 14, 2011 4:40 PM
115	The current structure of the Montana Board of Dentistry has served the citizens of Montana well. Other states, such as Nevada, have attempted to relax the oversight of dental professionals with catastrophic results. We hear terms like "mutilating patients for profit" coming from the Nevada dental community. Everyone wants lower cost and increased access but the only professionals qualified to oversee the dental professions are Dentists.	Nov 14, 2011 4:39 PM
116	It would increase patient risk to decrease the number of dentists on the board. Having separate boards for oral health providers would increase confusion and become a liability nightmare. Common sense should prevail here in retaining the board as currently composed.	Nov 14, 2011 4:26 PM
117	There is no patient benefit or increased access to care in creating two boards. The cost to create two boards requires spending that is unnecessary and should be used elsewhere. It creates multiple levels of governance that is not necessary.	Nov 14, 2011 4:01 PM
118	The current board fairly represents the three sectors of providers.	Nov 14, 2011 3:58 PM
119	There is no benefit for patients or oral health care by turning one board into two. Change would simply add confusion to any ruling/mandates. Currently it is a simple system that works extremely well, there is no reason to complicate it just for the sake of change.	Nov 14, 2011 3:39 PM
120	Two Boards would make patient care less predictable and would waste taxpayers money.	Nov 14, 2011 3:31 PM
121	Hygiene and denturist services are still dental services. Secondarily hygiene requires by law to have supervision by a dentist, so how could they have there	Nov 14, 2011 3:18 PM

Page 1, Q3. DO YOU SUPPORT RETAINING THE CURRENT BOARD OF DENTISTRY COMPRISED OF 5 DENTISTS, 2 DENTAL HYGIENISTS, 1 DENTURIST, AND 2 PUBLIC MEMBERS?

	own board and regulate there scope of practice. Lastly it just make things more inefficient and costly to split up the current board into 2 seperate boards	
122	It makes no sense whatsoever to start up a new board. If someone wants the privileges and responsibilities of being a dentist, they should go to dental school to provide a better service to their patients.	Nov 14, 2011 3:13 PM
123	I feel this a great importance to maintaining quality care for MT citizens and avoiding costly problems for not only patients but the board and legislation as well	Nov 14, 2011 3:06 PM
124	I would add an additional dentist to give them a majority on the board. I would not separate the boards.	Nov 14, 2011 2:46 PM
125	this balance is important in safeguarding the health of Montanans	Nov 14, 2011 9:25 AM
126	I believe dividing the board dilutes the capacity to provide proper dental care to the state of Montana. Furthermore I believe it increases the divisiveness between hygienists/denturists and dentists which ultimately undermines our common goals.	Nov 14, 2011 8:28 AM
127	I believe,as a hygienist, we should be vested in the total care of each patient. We need to work as a total team.	Nov 14, 2011 6:58 AM
128	Leaving the board this way causes an unfair and unequal representation for hygienists.	Nov 13, 2011 7:33 PM
129	There is not equal representation.	Nov 13, 2011 1:23 PM
130	Dental Hygienists and Denturists are subbranches of Dentistry and are not separate professions. They are simply adjuncts to Dentistry	Nov 13, 2011 1:16 PM
131	The dentists do not give fair representation to dental hygiene issues/expansion of duties to benefit rural residents.	Nov 13, 2011 1:11 PM
132	Would like to see another hygienist on the board	Nov 13, 2011 10:54 AM
133	Dental Hygienists deserve more representation on the board due to the fact there are 2x more of them practicing in the state of Montana compared to dentists.	Nov 13, 2011 10:30 AM
134	unequal representation	Nov 12, 2011 6:41 PM
135	If the mandate for the Board is to overview the dental and oral health for the citizens of Montana, there is no practical reason to separate into two different boards. Not only would this result in more costs, there would be no dentists evaluating the hygienists and denturists. There are no more qualified professionals, trained in diagnosis and treatment modalities than dentists. There is a misconception that there is little risk to the public dental health from the services initially proposed by hygienists and denturists. The denturists have already proved themselves untrustworthy, having practiced some aspects of treatment illegally and individual denturists have not only threatened to continue but have stated they have no intention of changing their practices. Hygienists do	Nov 12, 2011 9:12 AM

Page 1, Q3. DO YOU SUPPORT RETAINING THE CURRENT BOARD OF DENTISTRY COMPRISED OF 5 DENTISTS, 2 DENTAL HYGIENISTS, 1 DENTURIST, AND 2 PUBLIC MEMBERS?

not have the training or experience in diagnosis to make appropriate recommendations to patients regarding treatment. In the legal arena, this is known as informed consent. How can this occur if the hygienists aren't informed enough themselves?

136	The current system seems to work. Dentistry is profession with many facets, and we should all work together for the benefit of the public.	Nov 12, 2011 8:56 AM
137	The current board of dentistry does not reflect the current number of licensees for each profession, this must be updated. There are as many dental hygienists as dentists in this state, this is not the board of dentists it is the board of dentistry. I believe the current board discriminates against the other 2 professions on this board. They vote together, they do not mentor the public members so that they make informed decisions. In addition the dentists are not prepared when they come to these meetings, they spend way to much time mulling over misdemeanor offenses for licensee applicants, and not enough time looking at dentists who have committed felonies and are still allowed to practice dentistry, tell me how htis is protecting the public. They do not follow Roberts Rules in board meetings and the meetings have been run like a 3 ring circus	Nov 11, 2011 7:56 PM
138	It doesn't give hygienists and denturists a "fair" say in current issues. The Dentists out-weigh for all votes.	Nov 11, 2011 7:21 PM
139	Will need 3 more dentists on the Dental Board, and possibly one more, due to the den-tourist, hygienist and Public members voting in a block, against the Dentists, in order to solve the unfairness and non-ethicity that is present within the existing Board.	Nov 11, 2011 12:18 PM
140	The public is best served by an integrated approach.	Nov 11, 2011 9:11 AM
141	I am also a licensed, practicing dental hygienist in Florida. We have public members also. I feel that ONLY those with knowledge of the dental profession should be on these boards. Thank you	Nov 11, 2011 7:40 AM
142	The current Board makeup has been fair to all concerned, and serves well to protect the public.	Nov 10, 2011 8:37 PM
143	The board should remain the same or increase numbers of all sections if more representation is needed a separate board would not be acceptable, the oral health of the state should report and be accountable to only one board regardless of your level of provider.	Nov 10, 2011 6:39 PM
144	The board of dentistry should be comprised mostly of Dentists, people who are most educated and trained in the oral cavity, creating a separate board or increasing the number of non-dentists would undermine the profession and could potentially be a hazard to the public, I am absolutly against any change in how the current dental board is comprised.	Nov 10, 2011 6:31 PM
145	The responsibilities of Hygienists and Denturists are auxilliary to Dentists and it is appropriate for Dentists to hold the majority on the Board.	Nov 10, 2011 6:05 PM
146	IF there has to be two boards, I support the original board as stated above (5,2,1	Nov 10, 2011 5:53 PM

Page 1, Q3. DO YOU SUPPORT RETAINING THE CURRENT BOARD OF DENTISTRY COMPRISED OF 5 DENTISTS, 2 DENTAL HYGIENISTS, 1 DENTURIST, AND 2 PUBLIC MEMBERS?

& 2);;;; the second board should ONLY be composed of 5 dentists, 1 dental hygienist, 1 denturist and 1 public member. My reasoning is such: from past experiences between MT. dentists and hygienists/denturists, it is clear to me that the denturists and hygienists are only trying to put more money in their own pockets,, to the detriment of the patients of MT. I am retired, so I have no money to gain from this argument; but I have watched denturists neglect and abuse their original postions when attempting " to treat the public patients", all the while ignoring the best advice of the practicing dentists in their locale. They have not attempted to consult the dentists, but instead, have gone off on their own & treated patients, to their own monetary benefit. I fear some of the dental hygienists are attempting to do the very same thing. Public members are of very little value to the board because often times they have no knowledge or experience from which to draw conclusions. I believe they probably have the very best intentions, but they are at a great disadvantage and my be taken "down the wrong road" by the wrong people during voting, etc. Such,,, is only my personal opinion,, from 41 years of general dental practice. Thanks for the opportunity to "vent" some of my frustrations, accumulated during all these years of trying to work with denturists, especially, and only some hygienists.

147	This is absolutely aburd. RDHs and denturists want to be dentists without the training. Liberalism is a dangerous road to travel. Mt will lose all of their dentists if you choose this path. You know the sick thing though? They will keep trying and trying until we all give up and they will get their way. I left MT already last year because I saw all this crap happening.	Nov 10, 2011 5:17 PM
148	There is at least one too many public members.	Nov 10, 2011 5:14 PM
149	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
150	We are the only state in the US that currently doesn't have more dentists on its board than remaining board members. The precedent is for more dentists on the board, not less.	Nov 10, 2011 4:25 PM
151	If a separate board is assembled, they will be able to increase their scope of care (services provided) without the oversight of a dentist. Only a dentist can see the overall picture of patient care; auxillaries see only a portion of it.	Nov 10, 2011 2:47 PM
152	I feel this is a good representation of the current dental professional population. I also feel it is important to keep the dental team on one board.	Nov 10, 2011 1:53 PM
153	retraining????	Nov 10, 2011 11:51 AM
154	because each dentist on the board are also members of the american dental association there is absolutly no way that their vote reflects or supports licensed denturist issues.	Nov 10, 2011 11:32 AM
155	if any changes should be made, one hygienist should be removed. Assistants are just as important as hygienists. Put one of them on the board.	Nov 10, 2011 11:14 AM

Page 1, Q3. DO YOU SUPPORT RETAINING THE CURRENT BOARD OF DENTISTRY COMPRISED OF 5 DENTISTS, 2 DENTAL HYGIENISTS, 1 DENTURIST, AND 2 PUBLIC MEMBERS?

156	This Board has worked effectively for decades. We don't need more boards doing the same thing.	Nov 10, 2011 10:34 AM
157	The current board supervises the profession and its collective interests. Fragmenting this supervision will likely lead confusion as to how to protect the public's best interest which is the ultimate goal of these agencies. Continuation of the current board would be in the best interest of Montanans.	Nov 10, 2011 9:38 AM
158	Can they get things done?	Nov 10, 2011 8:50 AM
159	The hygienists and denturists are not being fairly represented on the dental board.	Nov 10, 2011 8:43 AM
160	I would like to see the hygienist board member reduced to 1 which would more proportional to the numbers they represent	Nov 10, 2011 6:46 AM
161	Those with the DDS degree should decide. Two boards will only lead to conflict	Nov 10, 2011 4:11 AM
162	This is so vital in maintaining the integrity of the profession and cooperation with staff	Nov 9, 2011 10:49 PM
163	It would be a disservice to the public to fragment the board into the individual self interest groups, with reduced public protection and safety.	Nov 9, 2011 10:20 PM
164	It is the Screening Panels that really matter anyhow.	Nov 9, 2011 9:59 PM
165	It is best suited to determine what is in the best interest of the public and can enforce the necessary measures to assure it.	Nov 9, 2011 8:04 PM
166	The current board is named the board of Dentistry. Denturism and dental hygiene are part of Dentistry not seperate activities. Denturists and hygienists are not trained or licensed to diagnose oral health problems and should not be seperated as distinct entities.	Nov 9, 2011 7:05 PM
167	I don't believe that creating a seperate board for denturists and hygienists will protect the public. I served a term on the board of dentistry and know what goes on. The board is in place to examine, license, and regulate dentists, hygienists and denturists, period. If hygienists don't feel they are being represented well enough, they already have two spots on the board, and in my entire term on the dental board I can't remember a single complaint against a hygienist. Why do they need more representation, when none of the real work on the board has nothing to do with them? It seems rather odd that this committee would even consider creating a seperate board due to the additional costs involved. Also, the protection of the public would definitely be in jeopardy due to the fractioning of the profession. Dentists would have one set of rules and the other board their own set, which would undoubtedly cause procedural overlaps that when performed, may be illegal and dangerous to the public. I hope this committee considers public safety first and foremost before changing, and if something happens to themselves or a family member in the future because of this decision, I hope they can look in the mirror and be proud of themselves, because no one else is to blame!	Nov 9, 2011 6:56 PM

Page 1, Q3. DO YOU SUPPORT RETAINING THE CURRENT BOARD OF DENTISTRY COMPRISED OF 5 DENTISTS, 2 DENTAL HYGIENISTS, 1 DENTURIST, AND 2 PUBLIC MEMBERS?

168	I think it is wise to keep denturists and dental hygienists under the oversight of the general board of dentistry.	Nov 9, 2011 6:26 PM
169	The current board has sufficed for many years. The dental team which consists of dentists, assistants, hygienists and receptionists need to be kept as a team. Hygienists would like to practice without direct supervision. It would be detrimental to patients to allow this. They are not trained in the diagnosis of decay. I feel that hygienists and dentists need to practice together to provide the best care for the public. Denturists want to be able to expand the scope of their practice. They do not have enough experience to be allowed to place dentures or partials over implants. If they want to do this they need to go to dental school to get the proper amount of training.	Nov 9, 2011 5:18 PM
170	The current board is doing a fine job, and I do NOT think changes need to be made. The current arrangement does not need to be "fixed".	Nov 9, 2011 5:17 PM
171	may support if the Dental Hygiene Committee had rule-making authority and actual regulation of profession	Nov 9, 2011 4:51 PM
172	Dentists should be in control of the Board that governs the profession	Nov 9, 2011 4:11 PM
173	Dentistry needs to be managed as a single discipline even though there are several levels of providers for public protection. The make up of the board is such that the dentists don't have a majority by themselves. The financial consequences of splitting the board would be hard to justify since there are fewer licensed denturists or hygienists to support a whole board. The possibility of contradictory rules would be possible with separate boards.	Nov 9, 2011 4:10 PM
174	This is how we protect the public. The board works well! All three professions are treated equally. If you look at the past history, all three groups have had votes that went for, and against their desires. If you look a little deeper the reason some want a new board is for self interest, not public health safety. Don't add another layer of government.	Nov 9, 2011 4:03 PM
175	I feel strongly that forming two boards is not only financially and logistically inefficient but will result in a breakdown in the communication of the dental team. The results would be harmful to the many hygienists that do not support this idea and to our patients.	Nov 9, 2011 3:49 PM
176	One board ensures continuity of care and public protection while lowering overall costs to the licensees, and keeps "red tape" to a minimum and reduces public confusion.	Nov 9, 2011 3:36 PM
177	A separate board for denturists and hygienists is a bad idea. I believe it will lead to unsafe care for our public and is not in the best interest of dentistry as a whole.	Nov 9, 2011 3:05 PM
178	I feel that the current structure of board has functioned very well and feel that changing it would be a waste of tax dollars.	Nov 9, 2011 2:18 PM
179	I feel that it should remain the same!!!	Nov 9, 2011 2:07 PM

Page 1, Q3. DO YOU SUPPORT RETAINING THE CURRENT BOARD OF DENTISTRY COMPRISED OF 5 DENTISTS, 2 DENTAL HYGIENISTS, 1 DENTURIST, AND 2 PUBLIC MEMBERS?

180	I feel the "dentist" is best educated to be responsible for the care and supervision of treatment for Montana's dental population.	Nov 9, 2011 1:40 PM
181	No other state has an independent board separate from dentistry.	Nov 9, 2011 1:36 PM
182	Lets work together in providing oral health and not duplicate services which will only increase cost to the public. 2 boards will cause confusion to most people.	Nov 9, 2011 1:29 PM
183	the board does not need a denturist	Nov 9, 2011 1:12 PM
184	Best for the public's protection	Nov 9, 2011 12:17 PM
185	I would like to see a Board composition that will give each profession authority to govern their respective profession. This would eliminate conflicts of interest among the dental professions to ensure that Montanans are getting the oral health care they deserve.	Nov 9, 2011 10:26 AM
186	I think the current composition is well balanced. There are 5 dentists and 5 non-dentists. The dentists are the only ones that have training in all of the professions. There is a good check and balance as is.	Nov 9, 2011 10:20 AM
187	I feel that this is a fair representation as long as all board members are willing to listen to each other	Nov 9, 2011 9:59 AM
188	I think it makes no sense to divide the board that oversees dental health care in Montana. I'm confident that dividing the dental board will create more problems in the long run than it will solve. Ask yourself: Would it make sense to divide the board of medical examiners to create separate boards for accupuncturists, physician assistants, nutritionists, and podiatrists? If it seems unwise to divide the medical board, why would it make sense to divide the dental board?	Nov 9, 2011 9:19 AM
189	An additional board without dentists' representation will negatively effect the ability of the oral health professions to make appropriate and timely decisions on the betterment of oral health in our communities.	Nov 9, 2011 8:34 AM
190	Oral health care should be managed/supervised collectively to ensure the integrity and ethics of each profession.	Nov 9, 2011 8:26 AM
191	Every other state in the nation has the dental hygienists and dentists on the same board. We work closely together everyday, and changes cannot be made to one group without affecting the other. We should all be on the same board.	Nov 9, 2011 8:22 AM
192	This organizational structure is ideal in overseeing the functions of dentists and dental providers in Montana. As a dentist, I am ultimately responsible for all actions of dental providers under my direction. I feel very strongly that with that responsibility comes the added necessity that I be adequately represented by my licensing board. I do not feel that formation of an additional board would benefit myself, my profession, the hygiene or denturity professions, or most imoportantly, the public. If any thing, the current structure is slightly under representative of the body of dentistry in Montana. If any change should be implemented, it should be that 6 dentists, 1 hygienist, 1 denturist, and 2 public persons should comprise the board. It can be argued that dentists should occupy a majority of	Nov 9, 2011 8:13 AM

Page 1, Q3. DO YOU SUPPORT RETAINING THE CURRENT BOARD OF DENTISTRY COMPRISED OF 5 DENTISTS, 2 DENTAL HYGIENISTS, 1 DENTURIST, AND 2 PUBLIC MEMBERS?

the board. As a doctor, I feel that it's my responsibility to insure the highest level of care for people receiving dental treatment. I do not feel that I could do that if hygienists and denturists were directed by a separate licensing board.

193	I don't see the proposed splitting of the board as an advantage to the profession or to the public.	Nov 9, 2011 8:02 AM
194	I don't understand the inequitable distribution of provider type on the Board of Dentistry. Is it based on per capita provider types in the state? Why are there more dentists than hygienists? Especially in MT where a hygienist can be licensed to practice independently of a dentist in a public health setting. I also don't understand why the Board needs to include 'public members' who understand neither clinical issues nor practice logistics. I'm not sure if two separate boards are the answer, it may create more division within the same profession, and ultimately result in an inefficient regulatory system. However, I do believe the Board of Dentistry is skewed unevenly to favor dentists. I think this is designed to perpetuate control of other dental providers, as opposed to a philosophy of mutual respect and appreciation for different skill sets. If a separate board is what needs to happen for more equitable treatment and inclusion within the Board of Dentistry, then that's unfortunate but I will support the new proposed design.	Nov 9, 2011 7:59 AM
195	This is all about public welfare . What do the Dental Hygienists and Denturists wish to gain ?I feel this is the question. Dissatisfaction with representation is not public welfare driven but self welfare driven.	Nov 9, 2011 5:35 AM
196	Any issues concerning hygienists and denturists may not be getting the attention they deserve due to poor representation on the board.	Nov 8, 2011 9:04 PM
197	By creating seperate boards, will the dental provider board be able to expand the definitions of these providers beyond thier current capabilities/beyond current acceptable practices?	Nov 8, 2011 8:49 PM
198	I support more representation for hygiene.	Nov 8, 2011 8:31 PM
199	This structure does not have equal representation for all of the professions. Also there is a conflict of interest between hygienists employed by dentists and this type of representation. This ratio of professionals on the board has created conflict for many years - which is not always in the best interest of the public.	Nov 8, 2011 8:15 PM
200	i am emphatic in my belief that the board be primarily made up of dentists with representation from hygienists, denturists, and the public representative. we have advanced doctoral level education and have been charged with the ultimate responsibility of the dental health of the citizens of montana. historically i believe we have proven that we accomplished these duties well and that major changes in governing the dental professions could irreparably damage the strides made over decades.	Nov 8, 2011 7:58 PM
201	While I would support some discussion on the matter, the majority of the board needs to be dentists with the vision to protect the best interests of dentistry for the public welfare.	Nov 8, 2011 6:40 PM

Page 1, Q3. DO YOU SUPPORT RETAINING THE CURRENT BOARD OF DENTISTRY COMPRISED OF 5 DENTISTS, 2 DENTAL HYGIENISTS, 1 DENTURIST, AND 2 PUBLIC MEMBERS?

202	The current structure provides the best protections for the oral health of Montanans. The fact of the matter is that two seperate boards will create confusion in patient complaints. On a fiscal note, the seperate boards are certain to increase legal costs to the state as there will be constant legal actions between the two.	Nov 8, 2011 6:33 PM
203	The more trained professionals should have some say in how the less trained persons provide patient care. To ensure the safe delivery of quality dental services. If the lesser-trained individuals are allowed to govern with no peer review - then things can get out of hand and the dental profession as a whole will be harmed. So I think the oversight is necessary and I support the current board set up.	Nov 8, 2011 6:16 PM
204	I feel that there is no need for a denturist to be a member. This should be appropriated to another dentist or RDH.	Nov 8, 2011 5:43 PM
205	Dental Hygiene is still defined by law as having a scope that requires supervision by a dentist. That being the case I am don't think they should have a board that doesn't have input from dentists and should be included under the board of dentistry, not a separate board.	Nov 8, 2011 5:31 PM
206	I am currently an interning Denturist in the state and am not sure if my survey counts. Until there exists amongst board members the ability to have non-competing intersts, there truly can't be an unbias board. Since the board consists of both dentists and denturists, competing interests are always on the table and the decisions made by the board will always reflect the majorities interests.	Nov 8, 2011 5:00 PM
207	All issues presently served by the board are pertinent to the practice of dentistry. Creating 2 seperate boards compromises why the board exist in the first place. The board ensures the public's safety by enforcing the laws that govern the practice of dentistry. Creating two seperate board is the self serving interest of these other parties to circumvent the laws designed to protect the public.	Nov 8, 2011 4:54 PM
208	I feel the board is fairly represented, given the fact that dentists are the trained experts of the oral cavity and dentition. The majority of dental hygienists practice with dentists under supervision and most of those have no desire to practice independently. The number of Denturists in the state does not justify having another board of adjusting the current board. Thank you.	Nov 8, 2011 4:37 PM
209	The board of dentistry has from the beginning of denturity been against us and our practice. We have not had an equal say in our profession and have always been looked at by the board as taking away their business. We will never get a fair hearing from this board. It needs to be changed to be fair the the Denturist.	Nov 8, 2011 4:17 PM
210	In the last 27 years the dentists on the board have suppressed the denturists and hygienists from advancing their professions. They take a weekend course in dentures (golf) and they are the specialists in overdentures and implants. Not hardly. 95% of dentists need to take the practical board in denturity before they should be aloud to touch a denture patient. Ken Macpherson LD18	Nov 8, 2011 3:13 PM
211	It should actually be weighted in favor of the dentists. Look at the other 50	Nov 8, 2011 2:21 PM

Page 1, Q3. DO YOU SUPPORT RETAINING THE CURRENT BOARD OF DENTISTRY COMPRISED OF 5 DENTISTS, 2 DENTAL HYGIENISTS, 1 DENTURIST, AND 2 PUBLIC MEMBERS?

states!

212	I believe dentists should be in charge of the oral health of the public. Our training encompasses all aspects of dentistry, as such we are in the best position to maintain, monitor, and establish the standards for all dental care.	Nov 8, 2011 2:21 PM
213	The purpose of the board is to serve and protect the public, not serve and protect each profession and I don't believe creating two separate boards is in the public's best interest.	Nov 8, 2011 1:42 PM
214	They do a wonderful job representing all dental professionals in Montana, including hygienists and denturists.	Nov 8, 2011 1:40 PM
215	The dentist has the ultimate responsibility for overseeing the work of hygienists and denturists, and therefore the majority of the board being dentists is appropriate.	Nov 8, 2011 1:23 PM

Page 2, Q4. DO YOU SUPPORT CREATING TWO BOARDS: A BOARD COMPRISED OF DENTISTS AND PUBLIC MEMBERS AND A SEPARATE BOARD COMPRISED OF DENTAL HYGIENISTS, DENTURISTS AND PUBLIC MEMBERS?

1	I support the separation of the dental and denturtry professions... the matter of how to reformulate a new board is not as important as the need to do so!	Nov 21, 2011 9:53 PM
2	Although, I would like to see the denturists have their own board and hygienist have their own board.	Nov 21, 2011 3:26 PM
3	I believe in total patient care, and fear that creating separate boards may further fractionate the care of my patients. Perhaps allowing representation on the current board based upon # of licensees, and with full voting privileges for all members, would alleviate the current problems.	Nov 21, 2011 11:14 AM
4	I believe one unified Board with equal representation of the professions (DDS, RDH, dentist) would be the best option to protect the public and prevent even further divisions between providers. If that is not an option than I believe dividing the Board is better than leaving it at current status.	Nov 20, 2011 8:19 PM
5	On the board of denturists and hygienists, each profession should regulate its own licensees: two self-regulating committees within one board	Nov 20, 2011 7:14 PM
6	I do believe the representation will be more appropriate if dentists do NOT have controlling interest in a board for "dental providers".	Nov 20, 2011 6:31 PM
7	Would prefer one board with equal representation.	Nov 19, 2011 3:09 PM
8	Use sub-committees for hygienists and denturists to regulate their industry aspects	Nov 17, 2011 9:35 PM
9	Get as much room between dentists and denturists.	Nov 17, 2011 9:31 PM
10	Dump the dead weight - dentists worry about dentists - end of story	Nov 17, 2011 9:29 PM
11	Hygienists should deal with their own headaches	Nov 17, 2011 9:27 PM
12	Dentists should represent the interests and concerns of dentists	Nov 17, 2011 9:25 PM
13	No dental professionals need to work together.	Nov 17, 2011 9:25 PM
14	Three boards. Each profession represents itself	Nov 17, 2011 9:24 PM
15	Three boards would be more accurate.	Nov 17, 2011 9:11 PM
16	Let the hygeniists sink or swim under their own weight.	Nov 17, 2011 9:01 PM
17	RN's are self regulated and so should hygienists	Nov 17, 2011 8:30 PM
18	The pubic would be much better served with Two different boards.	Nov 17, 2011 3:06 PM
19	Self-governance is an important aspect in keeping professionals accountable.	Nov 17, 2011 1:33 PM
20	Number of dentist on BOD verses dental hygienist's and denturist and public members is not balanced. This gives the dentist all the power when important decisions are being made that effect the other profesions being represented on	Nov 17, 2011 1:33 PM

Page 2, Q4. DO YOU SUPPORT CREATING TWO BOARDS: A BOARD COMPRISED OF DENTISTS AND PUBLIC MEMBERS AND A SEPARATE BOARD COMPRISED OF DENTAL HYGIENISTS, DENTURISTS AND PUBLIC MEMBERS?

	the BOD. Needs to be more balanced and fair.	
21	I would be willing to pay increased licensing fees to support administering the new board.	Nov 17, 2011 11:54 AM
22	I presently live outside of MT. Not sure what the issues concerning this are but since I am licensed in MT I will share my opinion. The dentists have certain	Nov 17, 2011 10:08 AM
23	If this is the way the hygienists can actually have a say, then I definately think thats what they need to do.	Nov 17, 2011 8:57 AM
24	rule changes in the past have reduced scope of pratice. the same rules should apply to all on the boards. full practical examination for public safety should apply to both dentists and denturists.	Nov 17, 2011 7:25 AM
25	seems unecessary. Also, since denturists, dental hygienists and dentists all have a an interest in patient care, one unified board should remain intact to oversee all professional activity. Creating separate boards could lead to difficulty in public access to the board as well as a decreased level of quality assurance. Furthermore, in the current economic environment, it seems more reasonable to downsize or continue the current arrangement rather than create two separate boards each with their own administrative and funding requirements.	Nov 17, 2011 7:23 AM
26	see comment prior #3	Nov 16, 2011 5:02 PM
27	As a former Dental Board member I speak from experience when I have seen the competing factions. . The attitude of the DDS toward the denturists is very biased and controlling..	Nov 16, 2011 11:00 AM
28	Ideally it would be beneficial to have each specific dental profession have their own governing board, as who is more versed about the specific profession than those members of the profession. I do understand that having 3 separate boards would be costly but all dental professionals should have an equal voice and representation of their specific profession.	Nov 16, 2011 10:18 AM
29	No. This fragments oversight of dental care to the detriment of the public. It also dramatically and unnecessarily increases cost, inefficiency, confusion and bureaucratic excess, especially bad in these times! Thank you for listening.	Nov 15, 2011 8:03 PM
30	the dental community, must retain our present board membership, The Dentist is the most highly educated of all the above and is most aware of our patients needs. Many irreversible procedures could not be preformed by auxillary personel. This is something that should not be allowed to happen.	Nov 15, 2011 8:29 AM
31	It's past time for this to happen!!!! It is the fair and right thing to do.	Nov 14, 2011 10:43 PM
32	This would create a board that represents the professions much more equitably.	Nov 14, 2011 7:44 PM
33	I feel that having a new board where hygienist can regulate themselves much like nurses can will help progress our profession and better the care we are able to give.	Nov 13, 2011 7:34 PM

Page 2, Q4. DO YOU SUPPORT CREATING TWO BOARDS: A BOARD COMPRISED OF DENTISTS AND PUBLIC MEMBERS AND A SEPARATE BOARD COMPRISED OF DENTAL HYGIENISTS, DENTURISTS AND PUBLIC MEMBERS?

34	The number of licensed dental hygienists and licensed dentists in Montana are nearly equal. Dentists outnumber dental hygienists five to two on the Board of Dentistry	Nov 13, 2011 1:28 PM
35	This would give dental hygiene and denturists more autonomy to self-govern. These organizations have worked collaboratively in the past where dentists seem to perpetuate a turf war.	Nov 13, 2011 1:13 PM
36	Would like to see another hygienist on the board	Nov 13, 2011 10:55 AM
37	Depends on how much power each of them would have on each board.	Nov 13, 2011 10:32 AM
38	The number of licensed Dental Hygienist's and Dentists in this state are pretty equal; yet the current board does not recognize this and continues to regulate all dental professions as if the dentists are in charge of all of us. They are a separate profession from dental hygiene and denturists. The education is different and the examinations are different for licensure. Medicine and Nursing do not have these constant battles due to the fact that they recognize they are two distinct professions.	Nov 12, 2011 6:52 PM
39	Hopefully this will be the solution to an unbiased board, less time in meeting because we won't have to deal with the complaints against dentists, and not being required to pay for the MPAP program which very few if any dental hygienists have ever utilized. If a seperate board is not the solution I do support staying on the current board only if there is a Dental Hygiene committee within the board who has the authority to make decisions for the dental hygiene profession. Tired of paying for the litigation fees of complaints files by dentists. WE are licensed professionals capable of making prudent decisions for our profession and ultimately protecting the public.	Nov 11, 2011 8:05 PM
40	This would balance the politics that remain with the Dentists/Hygienists/Denturists.	Nov 11, 2011 7:22 PM
41	at least two of the people on the dentists board should also be on the second board	Nov 11, 2011 2:49 PM
42	with no public members	Nov 11, 2011 7:40 AM
43	Absolutely. NO... ALL denturists,,, and some hygienists,, should always be controlled by some body, OTHER than themselves. They have not demonstrated the necessary maturity, in the past. They need to "prove themselves", first. Please believe me,,, there are some younger dentists, who need guidance, also.	Nov 10, 2011 6:01 PM
44	this would be a disaster for the public	Nov 10, 2011 5:23 PM
45	I think this would help make for a more efficient use of time at the board meetings, as the majority of time is spent on "dentist"-related issues. This would also allow for equal representation based on the numbers of dentists to hygienists in Montana.	Nov 10, 2011 11:55 AM
46	it is esential that the right to contract with the public for independant services not	Nov 10, 2011 11:37 AM

Page 2, Q4. DO YOU SUPPORT CREATING TWO BOARDS: A BOARD COMPRISED OF DENTISTS AND PUBLIC MEMBERS AND A SEPARATE BOARD COMPRISED OF DENTAL HYGIENISTS, DENTURISTS AND PUBLIC MEMBERS?

	be interfereed with by a competeing intrest.	
47	Let the dentists represent the dentists and there problems. While the hygienists and the dentureists represent their problems fairly!	Nov 10, 2011 8:45 AM
48	The public's oral health is treated by a Dental Team working together, lead by the Dentist, who is the teams responsible party. One board, as is, relates to this concept and gives the public a non-divided entity to protect their health interests.	Nov 9, 2011 10:36 PM
49	In the best interest of Montanans, separation into two Boards would be my preference. If the professions can have authority of their respective professions on the current BOD (separate committees with full regulatory control), I would support the current BOD. However, given the current composition of the BOD this does not seem feasible.	Nov 9, 2011 10:47 AM
50	Not necessarily. Equal voting rights per profession on one board could also solve the issue.	Nov 8, 2011 8:39 PM
51	I strongly support this separation of the professions - dentists and hygienists.	Nov 8, 2011 8:16 PM
52	The Board as it exists is not perfect but very functional. This style of Board is used nation-wide. Denturists and hygienists need supervision to continue to protect the public.	Nov 8, 2011 5:54 PM
53	Dental hygienists and denturists have very few complaints, legal filings, or needs from MPAP. I think it makes good financial sense for the State of MT to separate this board. The licensee fees are much more fair with this structure. Also there is no defense that this structure would in any way harm the public.	Nov 8, 2011 5:04 PM
54	see previous comment.	Nov 8, 2011 5:01 PM
55	Its the only way for fairness to be established in our profession	Nov 8, 2011 4:20 PM
56	with the majority of board members being the general public	Nov 8, 2011 3:15 PM

Page 2, Q5. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

1	It's time to put an end to restraint of trade and unfair competition as practiced by the Board of Dentistry. I make this statement as a former member of the Board, co-author of the denturist statutes and the target of multiple attempts to destroy the denturist profession in Montana!	Nov 21, 2011 9:53 PM
2	It seems to me that the dentists, hygienists, and denturists should have the same objectives; and that those should also align with the objectives of the public members. I strongly support keeping one board and altering the levels of representation if needed. Let's draw a bigger circle and have more people join the current board. This would be more effective in a government situation....than making an entire new board would be.	Nov 21, 2011 5:24 PM
3	I am a former president of the dental board and feel that many of the reasons proposed by the hygienists and denturists may at sometime in the past had some validity, but currently most of the the complaints are bogus. If the legislative committee feels separating the boards will make all their problems go away they are delusional. Breaking up the members of the dental team with each getting the ability to create separate rules is fraught with hazard. I certainly think each group has some legitimate issues that should be addressed and a compromise should be worked out.	Nov 21, 2011 5:09 PM
4	Hygienists and denturists do not have the training to diagnose that a dentist has. Integrating these services under one board provides the best protection to the public. Thank You. James Kehr DDS MAGD	Nov 21, 2011 4:22 PM
5	I see no benefit for the public with breaking up the board of dentistry. I only see less communication amongst groups which will increase cost to the government and decrease quality of care to the public. Thank You Andy Althaus DDS PC 406-531-3624	Nov 21, 2011 3:58 PM
6	The ratio of dentists to denturists and dentists to hygienists needs to be evaluated to determine this #	Nov 21, 2011 1:18 PM
7	In the words of Will Rogers--"if it ain't broke, why fix it?"	Nov 21, 2011 10:36 AM
8	I have just started practicing so I do not understand the politics	Nov 21, 2011 9:56 AM
9	Why do we need more government and more government expense?	Nov 21, 2011 7:54 AM
10	The name of the board is the Board of DENTISTRY. Dentistry is a field of professionals that include dentists, dental hygienists and in MT denturists. In patient care, the health professions are always trying to unite each subgroup to provide the highest, most comprehensive, care to the patients (public). If the dentist and dental hygienists were to have separate boards, it would in essence fraction the field and negate the years of work to unify the profession. The ultimate goal is to create a State where dental professionals work together instead of against each other, dentists, dental hygienists and denturists alike.	Nov 20, 2011 9:03 PM
11	Montana is the only dental board that does not have a majority of dentists on the board.	Nov 20, 2011 9:00 PM
12	I would like to see a board of dental hygiene and public member. The other board of dentist denturist and public member	Nov 20, 2011 8:23 PM

Page 2, Q5. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

13	The self-regulating committees could work within the current BOD too, if each profession could vote only on its own matters.	Nov 20, 2011 7:14 PM
14	Having just one board could be workable if the hygienists and denturists had self-regulating committees within the board. In some states the committee members are not all on the board, but the committee meets and makes decisions regarding their profession. The board is required to ratify the committee's recommendations in most cases.	Nov 20, 2011 6:56 PM
15	Thank you for taking the time to provide this survey. I am licensed in Arizona and Montana and I wish Arizona would follow suit!!!	Nov 20, 2011 6:31 PM
16	I very strongly appose this idea. Vince Meng	Nov 20, 2011 6:27 PM
17	NOne	Nov 20, 2011 2:29 PM
18	I feel one united board with equal number of Dental Health Professionals and 2 public members,would better service the public. We don't need two boards fighting each other for special interests.	Nov 19, 2011 5:22 PM
19	Or, I'd like a BOD comprised of equal # DDS and DH + public member/denturist	Nov 19, 2011 3:09 PM
20	I believe the interests of the people of Montana are best served by having one board regulate all dental providers. Do not separate the board of dentistry!	Nov 19, 2011 10:13 AM
21	I believe that establishing 2 boards will further fragment the oral health team and create more division between dentists/hygienist/denturist. In my opinion this also will affect negatively the quality of care for our patients which is why we choose this career, right?	Nov 19, 2011 9:46 AM
22	It would be beneficial to the state of Montana if the Board of Dentistry stays together as one board. All members of the board need to work together as a team to protect the citizens of Montana.	Nov 18, 2011 6:08 PM
23	The dentist is, by the very nature of the profession of dentistry, responsible for TOTAL patient ORAL HEALTH CARE. The training, experience, and broad spectrum of educational training dictates this situation. The consumer is not aware of the technical attributes of the professions of Dentistry or Dental Hygiene, nor the mechanical challenges of the Denturist. Separating the responsibility of this oversight from the dentist, may be the easier way to go, however, it would produce an extremely deleterious situation for the consumer/patient. Also, in situations of liability/malpractice concerns the multitude of confusion, by ALL parties could only be imagined. It is amazing to me that entities who know so little about the oral cavity, would entertain "breaking up the current Board of Dentistry". It is irresponsible for the Registered Dental Hygiene Association, in collaboration with the Denturist Association, to advocate this change, to the detriment of the dental patient!!! Very Sincerely, Daniel O'Neill, DDS, FAGD, MT License #1623	Nov 18, 2011 3:00 PM
24	We need to look at this for what it really is, an attempt by a small group of dental hygienist and denturists to gain further autonomy. I have always been confused by this; a hygienist is a hygienist if an individual is seeking a greater scope of practice in the dental field why don't they apply for dental school. If a dentist	Nov 18, 2011 12:45 PM

Page 2, Q5. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

	wants to have a greater scope of practice he or she must apply for advanced residency. In the dental practice, the dentist leads. He or she diagnoses and supervises the work of the dental hygienist. In my mind it makes no sense to piece-meal the board of dentistry.	
25	The current board is wasting time and money supporting these other professions	Nov 17, 2011 9:11 PM
26	This would insure better public safety	Nov 17, 2011 8:30 PM
27	I believe Dentists should hold a majority on the Dental Board	Nov 17, 2011 8:01 PM
28	Dentist will always oppose any other choices by the public. Most of all to any other alternative to provide services.	Nov 17, 2011 3:06 PM
29	The board represents the public and always questioned why two hygienists are needed and never wanted a dentist on the board. I would suggest no dentist, only one hygienist and three public representatives.	Nov 17, 2011 3:02 PM
30	Please leave the dental board as is.	Nov 17, 2011 2:52 PM
31	I question whether or not conducting a survey is what you should be doing. My thought is this board exists to insure the safety of Montana citizens in their dental health providers. This is not a popularity contest. Make the decisions based on what is best for the people, not the various professions you govern. Thanks for serving. You do a necessary thankless job,	Nov 17, 2011 2:04 PM
32	Thank you for taking this item under consideration.	Nov 17, 2011 1:33 PM
33	The professionals know best for their area of expertise how to regulate or make decisions for their profession. Dentist for theirs, dental hygienist for theirs and dentist for theirs.	Nov 17, 2011 1:33 PM
34	There will always need to be a majority of dentists on the "board of dentistry"	Nov 17, 2011 1:23 PM
35	The # of dentists and hygienists should be the same on one board.	Nov 17, 2011 10:50 AM
36	It is ridiculous that the board of Dentistry is making decisions re licenses for new hygienists re small past traffic violations when dentists charged of crimes can still hold their license...what sense does that make?	Nov 17, 2011 10:49 AM
37	Breaking up the Board will just cause more disagreement and be more expensive to arbitrate. As it is , dentists are grossly underrepresented on the Board due to their scope of practice and expertise. Dentists perform all the work that hygienists and denturists do plus root canals, fillings, extractions, biopsies, implants, crowns, bridges, public health, anesthesiology and more. The limited scope of practice and the procedures performed is more than adequately represented by the 8 practitioners on the Board.	Nov 17, 2011 10:26 AM
38	Creating a separate board creates another layer of bureaucracy and inefficiency especially considering we all have the same goal, oral health for the good people of Montana. Dentists, Denturists, and Hygienists are all on the same team even if they don't act like it sometimes.	Nov 17, 2011 8:12 AM
39	My opinion derives from having served on the Board for one term - an insider's	Nov 17, 2011 8:03 AM

Page 2, Q5. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

	view, assuredly, but rather circumspect, I hope.	
40	creating 2 Boards will ultimately be detrimental to patients and their best interests. 1 board would act cohesively and 2 would be disjointed. Patients would be adversely affected.	Nov 17, 2011 7:58 AM
41	creating new boards to replace the current board would be costly and inefficient, hygienists must practice under a dentists supervision, why should they have an independent disciplinary board	Nov 17, 2011 7:48 AM
42	A main purpose of the board of dentistry is to protect the public from unscrupulous and/or unqualified providers in the field of dentistry. Having several boards in dentistry could be self serving, inefficient, and not necessarily in the best interest of the patient. The present board is well represented by the three factions involved, especially considering the discrepancy in the number of dentists in the state compared to the number of denturists and the respective representation. The Board of Dentistry has historically served the people of Montana well and I think it will continue to do so in the best interests of the public, if it is allowed to function in its present form.	Nov 16, 2011 11:01 PM
43	I am not sure of all the pros and cons about creating two boards. I do feel that I would be in support of changing the current make up of the board to have equal representation. We need to be on the same page as professionals and work together without constant opposition. I am in support of the best way to accomplish this.	Nov 16, 2011 9:44 PM
44	The Board of Dentistry is essential and the way it is set up now is effective and efficient. Keep it as it is.	Nov 16, 2011 8:06 PM
45	I am currently a dentist in the US Air Force and plan to practice in MT after my military service commitment.	Nov 16, 2011 7:18 PM
46	Do not split the board of dentistry into more than one board. Montana would be the only state in the union to not have a single board governing dentistry. The problems caused by two boards governing overlapping professions would be tremendous. The cost to support two boards is unnecessary. If multiple boards were an efficient model, Montana would not be the only state considering it. It is so unfortunate that a small number of hygienists and denturists with self serving interests create issues like this instead of working together on the access to care issues faced by Montanans. Instead of trying to break away from the dental team, hygienists, denturists, assistants and dentists need to work together to come up with viable solutions to reduce the barriers that keep Montanans from accessing dental care. As individual groups we will not be successful. Only as a team will we be able to make a difference. Please keep the board intact.	Nov 16, 2011 7:15 PM
47	Two boards would undoubtedly cost the taxpayers of Montana more in legal fees. This move would not do anything to improve the access to care or quality of care for Montanans	Nov 16, 2011 4:09 PM
48	THERE IS A REASON THAT MONTANA IS ONE OF THE FEW STATES THAT ALLOW DENTURISTS TO PRACTICE - IT IS BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT COMPETENT. HYGIENISTS NEED US TO HAVE A JOB. THE AFOREMENTIONED IS REASON ENOUGH THAT THE CURRENT BOARD	Nov 16, 2011 3:57 PM

Page 2, Q5. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

	SITUATION IS SUFFICIENT. ANYTHING LESS WOULD BE A STEP BACKWARDS FOR MAINTINING THE INTEGRITY AND STANDARDS OF THE DENTAL PROFESSION. ONLY IN MONTANA WOULD THIS TYPE OF THING COME UP. IF THIS BILL DOES PASS, THEN WHATS NEXT? ASSISTANTS GIVING LOCAL? DENTURISTS TAKING X-RAYS? WHEN WILL IT END? COME ON... S. SIMMONS, DDS 406.375.1192	
49	My suggestion is to keep one board but change ratio to 4 DDS, 3 DH, maintain 1 dentist and 2 public members.	Nov 16, 2011 3:49 PM
50	The hygienist who are on the Montana Dental Hygiene Association Board have done a poor job of representing the common interests of hygienist in the state of Montana. At a recent meeting with hygienists from around the state, very few hygienists knew about creating a seperate board for hygienists.	Nov 16, 2011 3:44 PM
51	Splitting the board is purely a political attempt by hygienists and denturists to rid themselves of oversight by dentists. The purpose of the board is to protect the public. The format of representation that hygienists and denturists seek does not exist in any other state. What a stupid waste of resources.	Nov 16, 2011 3:26 PM
52	If this is an attempt by Hygienists and Denturists to bid for independent(without Dentist Supervision) practice of their professions. I believe it to be a grave mistake. Hygienists and Denturists simply do not have the knowledge to practice independently in a safe, professional, ethical, comprehensive manner.	Nov 16, 2011 11:43 AM
53	Denturists are a very viable and necessary profession and need to be encouraged and also held to high standards!! Not continually put down.. Thank you, Ron Olson Billings..	Nov 16, 2011 11:00 AM
54	I feel that maintaining the board will allow for clear communication and efficiency among denturists and hygienists. Ultimately, our goal is to provide the best care for our patients and I feel maintaining the board as is will fulfill this goal.	Nov 16, 2011 8:02 AM
55	The Board of Dentistry has represented the intetrests of the people of Montana well. Separation into two entities will eliminate the unified approach to solving issues vital to the dental health of the people of this state. A change from the present approach will will undoubtedly cloud the picture in regard to scope of treatment, education requirements, and quality of care for Montana residents.	Nov 16, 2011 7:48 AM
56	hank You	Nov 16, 2011 7:30 AM
57	I don't feel like a dentist has any place on a professional board representing our profession as dentists and hygienists. If they want to continue as an entity, then let them, we as dentists should not be supporting them. PERIOD!Shame on those who do work with them and support them. We should be informing the public of the difference in quality, care , education, etc. How did we let them have such a powerful voice. Lab technicians are an extremely important part of our services, but we don't allow them to directly treat patients. Denturists are lab techs practicing illegally. This is ABSURD!	Nov 15, 2011 7:22 PM
58	I would not like increased fees.	Nov 15, 2011 5:33 PM
59	As a dental hygienist, I think it is unfortunate that we want to feel equally	Nov 15, 2011 2:31 PM

Page 2, Q5. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

	<p>represented when we don't share equal responsibilities within the dental field. I am proud to work with my dentists as a team and hope we as a profession can learn to work with other professions, such as the dentists, for improved patient care. Isn't that why I chose this profession in the first place?? I feel the MDHA board members are already misrepresenting the dental hygienists and are on their own campaign. Thus, I think it is important that we continue to work together on improving access to care, with the support of the dentists. Thank you for your time.</p>	
60	<p>To decrease the number of dentists on the board erases years of professional education and experience. I apologize for this verbage, but to decrease the number of dentists on the board "dumbs down" the governing body of our profession.</p>	Nov 15, 2011 1:45 PM
61	<p>Hygienists are employed by dentists who are responsible for thier actions and patient care. A seperate board would confuse this issue. Denturists also have limited treatment modalities by law and seperating them would confuse them as to their true functionality.</p>	Nov 15, 2011 11:02 AM
62	<p>It is so necessary that dentists remain a part of our board. Over zealous hygienists worry me. I've been practicing a long time and have seen a lot of bad work done by hygienists (and a lot of great work). We need dentists as part of our board to maintain the best quality of care for our patients</p>	Nov 15, 2011 8:43 AM
63	<p>We need to remember why the board is there and its role. We need all on the board to have a voice of reason and as a check and balance with each other. This cannot be done if only dentist are on the board or just hygienists. When something out of bounds is suggested the others need to call foul. I also believe that you should have a majority of dentist on a dental board!</p>	Nov 15, 2011 7:22 AM
64	<p>Separating the board would compromise the care that the public receives.</p>	Nov 15, 2011 5:29 AM
65	<p>Dividing the board of dentistry is not a wise choice. All dental groups should be regulated by the same board.</p>	Nov 14, 2011 11:46 PM
66	<p>Important for health care to maintain current board. having taught at dental schools in the past, and being involved in national dental interests, it is important to keep dental involvement as it exists currently. Dental hygienists are not able to diagnose, nor are denturists. that alone eliminates them from legally determining patient outcomes. they are totally in the realm of being adjuncts to treatment, and not the ultimate responsible caregivers. they truly do not have the training nor the responsibility for the overall care for patients. From my overall experience with several dental schools and particularly dental hygiene training, dental hygienists and denturists are still only adjuncts in care for dental care, and as groups,do not have the qualifications to make the decisions for dental care that you are expecting. They are not trained dentists, and for the most part are adjuncts to dental care. dentistry alone has become the realm of to some extent ,as the family practitioner. Fortunately dentists are actually trained in medicine, dental hygienists and denturists are still in the realm of technicians, and truly need supervision. they need supervision. Again having taught in some of the best dental schools and dental hygiene schools, I am very aware of both the politics and the real world of dentistry.</p>	Nov 14, 2011 11:07 PM

Page 2, Q5. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

67	The sooner the better!	Nov 14, 2011 10:43 PM
68	I believe that the board should be comprised equally based on number of years of post secondary education required to obtain ones degree.	Nov 14, 2011 9:13 PM
69	I think it would be a great disservice to break up the board of dentistry, not only the cost issues but how the effective ability to regulate all aspects of dentistry will decrease.	Nov 14, 2011 9:12 PM
70	With the number of dentists and dental hygienists comparably equal, the current board configuration is totally unfair and the other professional licensing fees are covering the cost of the dentists' legal fees.	Nov 14, 2011 7:44 PM
71	This is a complete grab for power, and a waste of time energy and money.	Nov 14, 2011 7:43 PM
72	What public good is there to separate the board?	Nov 14, 2011 6:07 PM
73	The dentist members of the present board do not have a clear majority with the 5 to 5 split. Montana is the only state without a majority of dentists on it's Board of Dentistry. Two boards makes no sense when considering the dental health of all Montana citizens.	Nov 14, 2011 5:26 PM
74	please keep the dental treatment of the people of montana under the regulation of DENTISTS, the providers that are best trained in Dentistry.	Nov 14, 2011 5:22 PM
75	One board is adequate , especially in this time of economic downturn. It decreases expenses and keeps the dental profession as a team, not focusing on self-interests.	Nov 14, 2011 5:10 PM
76	Dismantling the current Board would do nothing to increase patient safety. Additionally, there would be no overall increase in access to care. I have heard no arguments that favor breaking up the current Board. It appears that it this a political means of allowing hygienists and denturists to attempt to practice in a manor that is beyond their scope. This would undoubtedly lead to a decrease in patient safety.	Nov 14, 2011 5:00 PM
77	I believe we need one board to be responsible for all dental issues and reduce possible conflicts	Nov 14, 2011 4:49 PM
78	Easy solutions to difficult problems are usually the most costly in the long term.	Nov 14, 2011 4:41 PM
79	Important for public benefit and standardization of regulatory functions to keep a unified dental board. Division of boards does not improve safety to public interests or economize on scarce resources. Strong oppose separate boards regulating dental care in Montana.	Nov 14, 2011 4:23 PM
80	It is neither cost effective or of any benefit to the public.	Nov 14, 2011 4:18 PM
81	Licensed dentist have the ultimate responsibility for the dental health and well being of the Montana public. The separation of hygienists and denturists from the dental board is not in the best interest of the general public as this undermines the ability of the dental board and dentists in general to assure the public is receiving standard of care dental treatment. Economically two boards are more expensive that one. Additional hygients and denturist can be placed	Nov 14, 2011 4:06 PM

Page 2, Q5. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

	on the dental board if they feel they are unfairly represented.	
82	I don't see how you can serve the public by keeping dental hygiene and dentistry out of broad dental supervision. This is political and has nothing to do with the public's interest.	Nov 14, 2011 3:26 PM
83	Splitting into two boards in no way improves the oral health of the public and in fact has potential for harm.	Nov 14, 2011 1:42 PM
84	There are significantly more dentists in the state than denturists and it seems unnecessary to have a board strictly for this small number of denturists who have a much more limited scope of work than general dentists. Hygienists always work in the office of and under the supervision of dentists and therefore i do not feel that they need a separate board since they are being represented on the current board. The current system isn't broke so doesn't need fixing.	Nov 14, 2011 11:35 AM
85	I pay the malpractice for my hygienist, she works in my office, my reputation, my patients. But the board overseeing her would have no dentist input at all? So the board controlling her license has no legal ability to diagnose periodontal disease and can't treatment plan a tooth for periodontal therapy versus extraction, yet they would rule on whether she did or did not act professionally, ethically, morally and CORRECTLY??? This might be the most stupid thing I have ever heard. 2 public members have a say, but their bosses and doctors don't. Makes no sense. This is a really bad idea.	Nov 14, 2011 10:15 AM
86	I would just note that those hygienists who would like to expand their functions by having more influence/ representation on the board, (or their own board), should realize there is already a vehicle in place for this to be accomplished. It is called an education at an accredited SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY! Personally, as a dental hygienist, I CHOSE to go to hygiene school and I consequently have a scope of practice because of the training I received. If I wanted to do what dentists do I would have gone to dental school AND I STILL FEEL THAT WAY.	Nov 13, 2011 9:24 PM
87	I would not be in favor of splitting the boards. It would increase costs for all involved. We would also be the only state in the union with separate boards. For efficacy and continuity, it does not make sense to have different boards regulating the same segment of health care.	Nov 13, 2011 2:03 PM
88	The cost of the new Board of Dental providers will be less than the Board of dentistry because investigating complaints against dentists is the greatest expense of the BOD. There are far fewer complaints against hygienists and denturists so the new Board will spend less in investigations and legal costs. Boards are also using teleconferencing as a cost-saving measure. The combined expense reductions will greatly mitigate fee increases due to fewer licensees.	Nov 13, 2011 1:28 PM
89	Would like to see pros and cons of having two boards	Nov 13, 2011 10:55 AM
90	Dentistry and the the public will suffer if every facet wants to beat its own drum. All the allied dental professionals can work together for the betterment of oral health in Montana. This can best be done if we maintain a dental board that encompasses all allied dental health professionals.	Nov 12, 2011 9:01 AM

Page 2, Q5. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

91	It is time to do something about the problems that have been circulating around this board for over 25 years. The legislators are tired of it and the dental hygiene and denturists licensees are tired of it. It is time to make a change. If not our own board then we must revamp the structure of the current board to reflect equitable representation by all professions. My own dentist that I work for said that dental hygienists should not even be represented on the BOD , it should be dentists only since they are the ones that ultimately can be sued. I reminded him that dental hygienists also carry malpractice insurance and there is nothing in writing to say they cannot be sued. He also stated he is in charge of my license....I reminded him that he is not I am responsible for my license, and if indeed he was then why doesn;t he pay for it?? In addition this is the mentality that we deal with on a daily basis, not only in our practices but on the board. If the dentists don't think we should be represented on the Board of Dentistry then their wish will be granted when we move off this board and have a board of our own. It is time for some peace.	Nov 11, 2011 8:05 PM
92	Currently the Dentists prefer to "dictate" to other professionals rather than "collaborate" with the other professionals. We are ALL licensed for pete's sake!	Nov 11, 2011 7:22 PM
93	another option--matters relating to hygienist and or denturists be decided by original board but only one dentist	Nov 11, 2011 2:49 PM
94	Why would we want to increase costs for additional boards when our present structure is perfectly fine.	Nov 11, 2011 12:24 PM
95	Why would one not want the best educated people in the field in the supervisory capacity?	Nov 11, 2011 9:12 AM
96	Why does Montana hygienists and denturists feel like Montana needs to be the first state in the USA to have two separate boards-its ridiculous.	Nov 11, 2011 8:30 AM
97	The current dissatisfaction with the Board comes from a small (but very vocal) minority of Dental Hygienists, and a very small number of Denturists (21 licensees) who aren't happy with anything except having their own board.	Nov 10, 2011 8:39 PM
98	Consider a professional fulltime paid small board. 3-5 members to handle all issues.	Nov 10, 2011 5:23 PM
99	BULL [REDACTED]!	Nov 10, 2011 5:17 PM
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
101	The hygienists and denturists are already over-represented on the board as it stands now. 2 denturists is a large percentage of the total number of denturists in the state when compared to the total number of dentists and the 5 representatives they have. It is concerning to me that a "loud" minority can have such a large impact on the well-being of the majority. It is important to	Nov 10, 2011 4:30 PM

Page 2, Q5. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

	<p>remember that most hygienists don't want to be "on their own" and like the comfort of being under a dentist. A separate board creates new liability risks for hygienists and expenses will rise in accordance. The cost to have two boards will also increase considerably at a time when government needs to be prudent with all expenditures. These costs will provide no benefit to the state and use up precious resources that are needed elsewhere.</p>	
102	<p>I would also support a board that had three independent professions, neither voting on the others issues.</p>	Nov 10, 2011 3:15 PM
103	<p>Creating a separate board for the auxillaries, staffed by only auxillaries or a majority thereof, is akin to letting nurses run a hospital. While they think they have enough knowledge, a time of reckoning will come...</p>	Nov 10, 2011 2:51 PM
104	<p>What would the differance be?</p>	Nov 10, 2011 1:05 PM
105	<p>denturists and hygenists do not compete for similar services</p>	Nov 10, 2011 11:37 AM
106	<p>I take issue with a "dental provider board" that does not have a Dentist as a member. I feel that the State Dental Practice Act and the current Board of Dentistry does an outstanding job of regulating Dentistry, Hygiene and Denturist. I question the need for another board. I also question the motive to establish another board. Is there a sinister motive and reason to attempt to circumvent the existing board? No, I am not in favor of creating another board just to create another level of government oversight espically one that does not answer to the Board of Dentistry.</p>	Nov 10, 2011 11:12 AM
107	<p>I feel that the Denturists and Hygienists have too much representation on the board as is. The represent a much smaller population than is represented by the dentists. Giving them their own board gives them too much power and wont serve the population of Montana</p>	Nov 10, 2011 11:07 AM
108	<p>This controversy has gone on for years and is promoted by a small group who do not represent the rank and file of their profession in the case of the hygienists. Denturists are allowed to practice in only six states and are only striving for recognition and practice beyond the scope of their training. Neither of these issues warrants a new board.</p>	Nov 10, 2011 10:40 AM
109	<p>I am not aware of the internecine squabbles of the current Board, but apparently the hygienists and denturists are dissatisfied with their representation on the Board. I would strongly advise against balkanization of the profession by fractionating the profession further. The professional and public face of Dentistry in Montana should rest primarily with Dentists, those trained and equipped with the advanced schooling necessary to provide dental services to the public. If the Board is split up with hygienists and denturists pursuing independent agendas it will result in an overall degradation of the profession as a whole and will not serve the public interest. This is a very bad idea, and probably impossible to put the genie back in the bottle once implemented.</p>	Nov 10, 2011 10:07 AM
110	<p>Splitting the regulation of the dental profession into two separate boards has significant potential of producing conflicts which will require additional resources to resolve and is not in the best interest of the people of Montana.</p>	Nov 10, 2011 9:38 AM

Page 2, Q5. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

111	Having two boards would possibly be a constant power struggle. Need one board working as a complementary unit	Nov 10, 2011 8:26 AM
112	I do not support having separate boards for hygienists and denturists	Nov 9, 2011 8:58 PM
113	For public safety and the best quality of care the present Board needs to remain intact. There is the issue of the extra cost of another Board. What is working does not need to be fixed.	Nov 9, 2011 5:20 PM
114	The Board is fair. It is the only Board of Dentistry in the United States that does not have Dentists as the majority of it's Board Members. Dentists are the only "Doctors" on the Board with the training and expertise that can help educate other Board Members on matters that are difficult to understand. During rule making for the LAP Hygienist, the Hygiene Committee was tasked with making recommendations that were then adopted by the Board as a whole. Things work better on the Board than a few individuals would have you believe. Do what is right! Don't be swayed by the few, pushing an agenda that is only for their own self interest. Make a recommendation to the Interim Committee to retain the current Board of Dentistry. Do what is right for the people of Montana.	Nov 9, 2011 4:42 PM
115	I am looking forward to coming back to Mt. where I grew up to practice several days a week. Thanks	Nov 9, 2011 4:12 PM
116	My opinion is that the Board of Dentistry's main purpose is to insure that any and all types of dental care are provided by qualified practitioners in a safe manor. This is for the public's protection not the convenience of the practitioners.	Nov 9, 2011 4:12 PM
117	The Board of Dentistry, rightfully, has purvue over the affairs of all oral health care professionals. Any change to this will undoubtedly increase the publics' exposure to professional misconduct and risk of harm. The majority of licensees understand this. Please make your decisions considering the preponderance of evidence against the proposed segregation.	Nov 9, 2011 3:51 PM
118	The state's role is to protect the public by regulating professional practice, as is being done now.	Nov 9, 2011 1:37 PM
119	dentistry should have a board of professionals. dentists and hygienists.	Nov 9, 2011 1:13 PM
120	I would be supportive of a 3-3-3-2 board of dentistry also; 3 dental hygienists, 3 denturists, 3 dentists, and 2 lay people [1 a senior citizen and 1 a low income representative].	Nov 9, 2011 11:58 AM
121	I strongly beleive that it should be one board period.	Nov 9, 2011 11:49 AM
122	If the denturist and hygienist feel unrepresented in the board, they perhap there should be a survey taken of numbers of dentist, hygienists and denturists and find a percentage that each groups represents and comprise the board of this number of members. It is not advantagous to the practice of dentistry as a whole to have a separate board for other dental providers.	Nov 9, 2011 11:35 AM
123	sorry realyy do not know enough about the subject, seems like duplication and a waste to me.	Nov 9, 2011 11:01 AM

Page 2, Q5. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

124	I have only attended one BOD meeting and during that meeting I felt very uncomfortable giving testimony due to other attendees confrontational nature. No licensed dental professional should feel afraid to go before the Board to ask for permission to serve needy Montanans. The BOD should not be about trade restriction and fear, it should be about serving Montanans.	Nov 9, 2011 10:47 AM
125	As a Denturist I have seen many instances of bias and unfair rulings toward my profession. I feel like a seperate board would be more equitable. I would be happy to pay any increase in fees to make a new board possible. Thank You, Grant Olson	Nov 9, 2011 10:31 AM
126	The present system has worked well to date and any departure would be inappropriate in addressing the comprehensive and intertwined nature of issues facing dentistry today. Separating these subsets of dentistry and giving them there own autonomy would only create confussion and dysfunction in resolving the multitude of problems relating to any profession. Policy development and licensure issues are in need of constant monitoring and resolution. Keep them together!	Nov 9, 2011 10:29 AM
127	The current board can function to protect the interests of the public and all of those represented by the board. Splitting the current board will increase the divide between the groups represented. I do not see how creating a new board will be in the interest of the public either. Dentists receive extensive training in periodontal therapy and removable dentures. Our scope of practice includes everything a hygienist and a denturist do. Every hygienist in this state is currently under the supervision of a dentist in his/her office. We need to work together on the same board. I strongly oppose splitting the current board into 2 boards.	Nov 9, 2011 8:27 AM
128	No other state in the country uses a dental board structure with anything less than a majority of dentists on the board. Whatever needs are not currently being met in the view of hygienists and denturists can be addressed without formation of a separate board. I feel that this a change being sought after by a very small majority. I know many denturists and hygienists, and not once has any conflict or even a slightest mention of a problem with their function, representation, or over sight ever been discussed. I hope that the governing body can see through the fog, and realize that this is being fabricated by an unhappy few people.	Nov 9, 2011 8:17 AM
129	If Board is separated, there will be a complete lack of regulation. There will be licensing issues b/c "Board of Dental Providers" will be responsible for licensing their members. Dentists will be fine b/c licensing dentists would not change. All dentists are subject to DDS or DMD degree, and licensure through Regional Board. Hygienists AND denturists alike will be 'elbowed' out. Particularly, hygienist regulation would be effected. There is nothing to stop "Shady" dentists from hiring High school educated laymen to do hygiene and dentures. ULTIMATELY, PATIENTS WOULD SUFFER. The fact that this would be more costly to the taxpayer is beside the point.	Nov 9, 2011 7:50 AM
130	Dental hygiene is an integral part of dentistry as a whole. What good does separation of this service from the oversite of a Dentists does this provide to the public. Fabrication of dentures and Partial dentures is dentistry. Allthogh Denturity is allowed in Montana , the fabrication of Dentures and Partial dentures is still an integral part of Dentistry. Someone must be the gate keeper for the general .public. The General Dentist is that source. Creation of a 'dental	Nov 9, 2011 5:53 AM

Page 2, Q5. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

provider board " sounds a bite like a free for all. A board made for a profession that does not want oversight but rather a method to allow those to have unlimited self determination . What good does this serve the public. Maybe the members on the board that are dissatisfied are more concerned with their own issues than the wellbeing of the public which this board is to safeguard .

- | | | |
|-----|---|---------------------|
| 131 | The proposed change is ridiculous. This is not about serving the people of Montana better. It is about power, money and "turf." And, it will not save money. | Nov 8, 2011 9:12 PM |
| 132 | I am hoping that having two does not cause disagreements between the two. This in turn would/could make things worst and cause some issues to be delayed or stalled. There needs to be definitive verbiage between the two on what issues each address. There is a large expense of having two over one. How is it advantageous. What issues are addressed for each separate committee. If we form a new one can the old one get phased out? Obviously the Dental Board is always going to ultimately rule unless that verbiage is changed... | Nov 8, 2011 8:58 PM |
| 133 | I believe that the creation of the seperate boards may "blur" the definition of what a hygienist, denturists, and dentists do. Who will decide what is in the scope of each profession, a super-board of dentistry? | Nov 8, 2011 8:53 PM |
| 134 | The issue is one profession totally dominates two other profession. I consider it taxation without representation. Didn't that cause a revolution in the past? | Nov 8, 2011 8:39 PM |
| 135 | THE BOARD IS ESTABLISHED TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC OF MONTANA. THE HYGIENISTS AND DENTURISTS WANT TO EXPAND THEIR SCOPE OF PRACTICE IN TO AREAS THEY HAVE NO SOUND TRAINING IN. THE BOARD ONLY HAS 50% MEMBERSHIP OF DENTISTS AND IS FAIRLY REPRESENTED BY ALL GROUPS ESPECIALLY IF YOU COMPARE THE MEMBERSHIP TO ACTUAL NUMBERS OF DENTISTS, HYGIENISTS AND DENTURISTS LICENSED. THIS IS NOTHING MORE THAN A WITCH HUNT BY THESE TWO GROUPS AND BELIEVE ME IF YOU LET THEM HAVE A SEPERATE BOARD, YOU WILL SEE ALL HELL BREAK LOOSE BY THESE GROUPS GRABING FOR POWER AND TRYING TO EXPAND THEIR SCOPE OF PRACTICE INTO AREAS WHERE THEY ARE WOOFULLY ILL PREPARED AND THEN WE ARE NOT PROTECTING THE PEOPLE OF MONTANA. I AM AMAZED THAT THIS IDEA HAS EVEN GOT THIS FAR AND OUR STATE HAS SPENT THE TIME MONEY AND ENERGY OF THIS IDEA WHEN IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN SHELVED AT ITS CONCEPTION. ANOTHER WASTE OF OUR STATES MONEY WHEN OUR ADMINISTRATION SHOULD HAVE THE COMMON SENSE TO KNOW THE BOARD OF DENTISTRY IN ITS PRESENT MAKE UP IS VITAL TO THE DENTAL PROFESSION AND HOUSE BILL 525 SHOULD HAVE ALLOWED SELECTIVE REVIEW OF BOARDS NOT ALL BOARDS | Nov 8, 2011 8:29 PM |
| 136 | As a dentist and a leader in my practice, it is my responsibility to assure the best outcome for every patient. My education taught me how care for the patients overall health, their teeth, their gums, and how to replace missing teeth. I feel it would be a great disservice to montana patients if this leadership and education no longer had a way to oversee and direct the oral health of our state. I look foward to working with all constituents of my profession for the increased health of all. It is important that the individual components of dentistry can work together as a team. A team that can communicate, share ideas, work with | Nov 8, 2011 7:58 PM |

Page 2, Q5. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

sound scientific decisions that will keep our patients healthy. I have a good working relation with hygienists and denturists in my city I have heard that the opinion expressed to the board is not the opinions of the majority of denturists and hygienists in our area. It is not right when a minority can have the power to make changes that do not benefit the majority.

137	Altering the current composition of the Board would not be beneficial to the public.	Nov 8, 2011 6:18 PM
138	The dental profession has become too complex to become split into two separate boards- these boards would constantly be at odds with each other, which means they would forever be taking their differences to the legislature. Does the legislature want to be constantly adjudicating turf battles? The present board, despite what some groups would have you think, does a pretty good job of assuring that Montanans receive the best quality of care.	Nov 8, 2011 5:17 PM
139	The current Board seems to be well balanced where it is currently. The dentist is typically the captain of the dental team and has the most training relevant to the profession of dentistry. The other providers are very important in general, and provide care that is needed around Montana, but their representation should never exceed that of the dentists. The dentist has the most responsibility for our patients and should therefore carry the most representation on the Board. A separate Board for other providers will only cause unnecessary conflict that may otherwise be resolved with the current Board.	Nov 8, 2011 4:57 PM
140	I do not believe creating two separate Boards would be in the best interest of the public's overall oral health. Dentists are "dental providers" also--to create a separate new Board and especially labeling it as a "Dental Provider Board" without dentists on the Board seems absurd. There are a lot of skilled people who can quickly and easily be trained to do a lot of skilled dexterity work--including dentistry. However there is a longer, broader and more in depth education and training that goes into becoming a dentist or 'doctor' that actually means something besides just being an endurance test. This 'broader training' would apply to both periodontal and prosthetic work. To remove those that have the broadest and most in depth training with the accompanying knowledge, skills and abilities to do this work, from overseeing a Board of separate "dental providers" does not make sense, and leads to my initial statement of: This would not be in the best interest of the public's overall dental health.	Nov 8, 2011 3:26 PM
141	Why would the Board of Dentistry vary significantly more than the Board of Medical Examiners? The Medical board has a similar make up with physicians in the majority, but other allied members. Why are we trying to do something different with dentistry? Are we prepared to create a Board of Nutrition, a Board of Physician Assistants, A Board of EMT's, etc....? Please stop this.	Nov 8, 2011 2:46 PM
142	Please keep the board of dentistry as it is now. They are representing the best interest of the patients that we serve and make sure they all receive professional care from someone licensed to treat them.	Nov 8, 2011 1:42 PM
143	Denturists and Hygienists are valued, although DENTISTS should, considering their education, should have a stronger presence on the board.	Nov 8, 2011 1:25 PM