



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1847		DATE: 1/13/2026
COMMITTEE: Economic Development		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: CHRIS ROEPE		PHONE NUMBER:
REPRESENTING:		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 205 E. CAPITOL AVE		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: DIANN BOMKAMP		PHONE NUMBER: 314-484-6121	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MO DENTAL HYGIENISTS ASSOCIATION		TITLE: LEGISLATIVE CHAIR	
ADDRESS: 612 FAIRWAYS CR			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63141
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: EMMA SHANKLAND		PHONE NUMBER: 816-377-8957	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: HEALTH FORWARD FOUNDATION		TITLE: IMPACT STRATEGIST - POLICY	
ADDRESS: 2300 MAIN ST #304			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64108
EMAIL: eshankland@healthforward.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 10:04 PM	
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Chair Gallick and members of the House Economic Development Committee:

On behalf of the Health Forward Foundation (Health Forward), I submit this testimony in support of House Bill 1847.

Health Forward works to support and build inclusive, powerful, and healthy communities across Missouri and Kansas. We support this legislation because it will enhance access to dental care across the state by increasing workforce flexibility and allowing qualified dental professionals to practice across state lines—benefiting providers, patients, and communities throughout Missouri.

Allowing licensed and qualified dental professionals to practice across state lines will increase the number of providers available to care for Missourians. This is particularly important for rural communities, where persistent workforce shortages and long travel distances make access to dental care especially challenging. As demographic shifts and provider retirements continue, many rural areas struggle to recruit and retain dental professionals, leaving residents with limited options for timely care.

According to the Health Resources and Services Administration (October 2025), only 20.81% of Missouri’s dental care needs are currently being met. When individuals are unable to access preventive and restorative dental services, the consequences extend beyond oral health to missed work, lost productivity, and increased long-term health costs. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that untreated oral health disease costs the United States approximately \$46 billion annually in lost productivity.

House Bill 1847 helps address these challenges by creating a framework that supports interstate collaboration while maintaining strong regulatory oversight and patient safety standards. According to the Council for State Governments, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Tennessee, and Arkansas have already joined the Dental Compact, establishing a regional infrastructure that Missouri can leverage to expand access to care—particularly in rural and underserved communities near state borders.

By increasing provider mobility and flexibility, this legislation supports a practical, long-term approach to strengthening Missouri’s dental workforce, improving access to care in rural areas, and ensuring communities across the state can meet the oral health needs of their residents.

For these reasons, Health Forward respectfully urges the committee to vote YES on House Bill 1847.

Feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or would like additional resources at HAbdullahi@healthforward.org

Sincerely,

**Hayat Abdullahi
Director, Community Impact
Health Forward Foundation**

Submitted by Emma Shankland, Impact Strategist - Policy, Health Forward Foundation



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: JESSICA EMMERICH		PHONE NUMBER: 573-536-2474
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI COALITION FOR ORAL HEALTH		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: PO BOX 1432		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: NIKKI STRONG		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-4876
REPRESENTING: MO DENTAL ASSOCIATION		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 213 E. CAPITOL AVE		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65101
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: ALEX TUTTLE		PHONE NUMBER: 636-751-5022	
REPRESENTING: AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF DENTAL BOARDS/TUTTLE & ASSOCIATES		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 62069 ALLEE ROAD			
CITY: CALIFORNIA		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65018
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2026 11:21 PM	
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I am Opposed to this Bill. Dental Professionals shall be Meeting the Requirements of the State Board Dentistry, Comply with all Requirements and Training and pass Our State Tests.