

DENTAL CARE ACCESS

AB334

THE BILL

Allows for the more
**immediate Nevada licensure
of dental hygienists** who are
currently licensed to practice
in other states.

THE WHY

- All **17** Nevada counties are designated Dental Care Health Professional Shortage Areas.¹
- **71%** of Nevadans are without adequate care.
- Wait times for routine teeth cleaning are **maxed**.
- Nevada's hygiene-training programs at CSN & TMCC graduate a mere **30(+/-)** annually.²

THE NUMBERS

- Approx. **1,500** licensed hygienists in Nev.³
- **1 hygienist per 2,200** Nevadans
- **45 hygienists per 100,000** Nevadans

****National avg. is 64 hygienists per 100K residents, per Bureau of Labor Statistics.***

THE SOLUTION

AB334 removes a time-restriction barrier, allowing **licensed hygienists moving to Nevada the ability to immediately apply for a license**, start practicing, and increase Nevada's **DENTAL CARE ACCESS.**

THE SOURCES

1. Nevada Independent. Nevada's rural dentistry: A workforce in progress. The Nevada Independent. *Retrieved from:* <https://thenevadaindependent.com/article/nevadas-rural-dentistry-a-workforce-in-progress>
2. The estimate of 40 graduates annually from Nevada's dental hygiene programs was derived from details about the two main CODA-accredited programs in the state: the College of Southern Nevada (CSN) and Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC)
3. Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners and the Bureau of Labor Statistics
4. Weiss, R. A., & Hayes, M. J. (2021). Dental hygiene workforce in Nevada: A report on the education and practice characteristics. *Journal of Dental Hygiene*, 95(1), 17–24. *Retrieved from:* <https://jdh.adha.org/content/95/1/17>
5. American Dental Association. Economic outlook for dentistry [PowerPoint slides]. *Retrieved from:* https://www.ada.org/-/media/project/ada-organization/ada/ada-org/files/resources/research/hpi/jan2022_hpi_economic_outlook_dentistry_slides.pdf?rev=211a33cbe91e4f6e8e61f91e53b009b3&hash=4769CA5831A747FDC040CE4ABC0B0A47
6. Steinberg, B. J., & Syphard, J. E. (1978). Evaluation of dental assistants providing primary preventive dental care in the U.S. Army. *Military Medicine*, 143(11), 767–770
7. Kansas Legislative Research Department. (n.d.). H-07-23: Dental hygienists. *Retrieved from:* www.kslpa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/h-07-23.pdf
8. Bolin, K. A. (2006). Assessment of treatment provided by dental health aide therapists in Alaska: A pilot study. *Journal of the American Dental Association*, 137(3), 416–421. *Retrieved from:* <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/16522755>