



AB 269 (Eng): Dentist: Data Collection Reporting

BACKGROUND:

Existing law requires that dentists undergo a licensure renewal process on a biennial basis. Overseen by the Dental Board of California, the licensure renewal application asks for a very limited amount of specific information, such as the dentist's address.

Chaptered in 2006, AB 2283 (Oropeza) allows physicians to report and requires the Medical Board to collect, compile and report on physicians' cultural and language information through the renewal process.

NEED FOR THIS BILL:

Despite being home to the largest health care workforce in the country, very little is known about California's health professionals with respect to race/ethnicity, language proficiency, specialty, hours worked per week, and much more.

As California's population ages and becomes more diverse, it is increasingly critical that decision makers have data to inform future policy. Disparities in information across the professions as well as the general lack of local practice data constrains policy making and contributes to the ongoing inequities in the supply of health care providers. Increased information can be used to inform health care workforce policy and increase access to care for underserved populations.

THIS BILL WOULD:

- **Collect data through the current renewal process**
Utilizing the current dentist license renewal process, this bill would allow dentists to report and requires the Dental Board to collect, compile and report on dentists' cultural and language information as well as dentist specialty.
- **Require a reporting feature**
Data on the ethnic background and language proficiency as well as other key information on dentists would be reported annually and made publicly available for use by policymakers, researchers, health officials, and the general public.



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