

From: [Brooke Crouch Dental Consulting](#)
To: wvdentalboard@wvdentalboard.org
Subject: Public comment supporting elimination of secondary consent
Date: Thursday, June 18, 2026 10:12:23 AM

Good morning,

I wanted to take a moment to express my support of eliminating the need for secondary consent for mobile/portable dental programs.

Secondary consent has long been a significant barrier to care, preventing many children from receiving treatment even after a parent has already provided authorization for participation. Delays caused by additional paperwork often result in worsening dental disease, increased treatment needs, pain, infection, and missed opportunities for preventive care.

Removing this requirement will improve access to timely dental treatment, particularly for underserved children who may not otherwise receive care. Parents will continue to maintain their rights through the initial informed consent process and may decline services at any time. This change strikes an appropriate balance between parental involvement and ensuring children receive needed healthcare when it is diagnosed.

For these reasons, I encourage adoption of the proposed rule.

Thank you for your consideration and accepting public comments by those working to serve children in West Virginia.

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"Expanding dental access to all"

From: [Shimmie Steven Pesis](#)
To: wvdentalboard@wvdentalboard.org
Subject: support the proposed changes in Public Notice 5 CSRR 14
Date: Thursday, June 18, 2026 8:06:23 AM

Dear West Virginia Board of Dentistry,

I am writing to support the proposed changes in Public Notice 5 CSRR 14 to eliminate secondary consent requirements for portable dental programs.

Secondary consent is a significant barrier to care, often preventing children from receiving treatment even after parental authorization. The delays caused by this additional step frequently lead to worsening dental disease, pain, and infection. Removing this requirement will improve access to timely treatment for underserved and vulnerable children. This change maintains parental control of their children's dental care while allowing for the best possible outcome. I firmly support the adoption of this proposed rule.

Best regards,

Steven Shimmie Pesis DDS

Response to Comments made to the Board.

The Board agrees with the comments supporting the elimination of the secondary consent requirement. Requiring a secondary consent may unnecessarily delay treatment, which can prolong patient pain or discomfort and allow dental conditions to deteriorate before care is provided. These delays may result in more extensive treatment needs due to the progression of dental disease. Eliminating the secondary consent requirement promotes timely access to care while preserving the existing informed consent requirements that protect patient autonomy and ensure patients or their legally authorized representatives make informed treatment decisions.