

**Commission to Expand Access to Oral Health Care by Studying Alternative Pathways  
for Obtaining a License to Practice Dentistry**

Wednesday, October 8

10 AM – 1 PM

Room 209 (Health & Human Services Committee Room)

Cross State Office Building, Augusta, ME

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**Agenda: Meeting #1**

**10:00 Welcome**

*Chairs, Senator Donna Bailey and Representative Ambureen Rana*

Commission member introductions

**10:10 Review of Resolve 2025, chapter 107 (authorizing legislation for the study)**

*OPLA staff*

**10:20 Dental profession workforce issues**

- Dental provider perspectives  
*Dr. Israel Adeboye (Community Health Center representative) and Danica Loring (Federally Qualified Health Center representative)*
- Professional association perspectives  
*Therese Cahill (Maine Dental Association) and Traci Dempsey (Maine Dental Hygienists' Association)*

**11:00 Pathways to licensure in dentistry in Maine**

*Jeffrey Walawender, DDS (Board of Dental Practice) and Penny Vaillancourt (Dept. of Professional and Financial Regulation, OPOR)*

- 11:30**            **College of Dental Medicine, UNE presentation**  
Discussion of the Advanced Standing Track for Foreign-Trained Dentists program  
*Dean Nici Kimmes, DDS*
- 12:00**            **Challenges for dentists who trained elsewhere (i.e. in other states or internationally)**  
*Dr. Riddhi Badamia*
- 12:15**            **MaineCare's dental expansion**  
*Heather Pelletier (DHHS)*
- 12:30**            **Other states' approaches to licensure**  
*OPLA staff*
- 12:45**            **Informational requests and next steps**  
*OPLA staff*
- 1:00**             **Adjourn**