



TO: The Honorable Members of the Board of Regents

FROM: David H. Hamilton *David H. Hamilton*

SUBJECT: Appointment to the Position of Executive Secretary to the State Boards for Dentistry, Optometry, and Chiropractic

DATE: April 8, 2025

AUTHORIZATION(S): *Bellotti*

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision

Will the Board of Regents approve the appointment of Steven Calderon, D.M.D. to the position of Executive Secretary to the State Boards for Dentistry, Optometry, and Chiropractic?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State statute.

Proposed Handling

This appointment will come before the full Board of Regents for action at its April 2025 meeting.

Procedural History

Education Law section 6508(7) requires the Board of Regents to appoint an Executive Secretary to each state board on recommendation of the Commissioner. Education Law sections 6603, 7103 and 6553 require the Board of Regents appoint an executive secretary to the boards for Dentistry, Optometry, and Chiropractic. Education Law section 6603 requires that the Executive Secretary to the State Board for Dentistry be a dentist licensed and registered to practice in New York. The State Boards advise and assist the Regents and Department on matters of professional licensing and professional practice.

Background Information

The New York State Education Department oversees the licensing and practice of approximately 18,335 Dentists, 12,373 Dental Hygienists, 1,501 Registered Dental Assistants, 4,070 Optometrists, and 4940 Chiropractors. The primary oversight of those functions falls under the direction of the Executive Secretary to those Boards, a position that is required by statute.

Dr. Steven Calderon is a Doctor of Medicine in Dentistry and has extensive experience and qualifications his field. He has been practicing dentistry since 2020 and has spent the last fifteen (15) years at Stratton VA Medical Center in Albany, providing comprehensive dental care to veteran patients, delivering high-quality treatment in a multidisciplinary team environment, mentoring and supervising the Advanced Education in General Dentistry program (AEGD) residents in clinical and academic settings. He also has extensive experience giving lectures on rotary endodontics and chairside training.

Dr. Calderon has many abilities that make him an exemplary candidate for this position, in addition to his leadership and supervision of resident training, staff recruitment and management, and leadership of dental services. Dr. Calderon's comprehensive experience beyond clinical practice includes positions with the Department of Defense and the Air National Guard, where he has managed programs to improve healthcare access, led initiatives such as the Community Care program, which strengthened his ability to create and implement policies, advocate for patients, and be a positive agent for change.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents approve the appointment of Dr. Steven Calderon as the Executive Secretary to the State Boards for Dentistry, Optometry, and Chiropractic.

Timetable for Implementation

If the Board of Regents approves the recommendation, the appointment will be effective April 8, 2025 and he will commence employment on May 15, 2025.

VOTED: That the Board of Regents approve the appointment of Dr. Steven Calderon to the position of Executive Secretary to the State Boards for Dentistry, Optometry, and Chiropractic, effective May 15, 2025.