

# The Gadsden Times

## LEGISLATURE

# Tuberville brings Gadsden dentist to testify before Senate committee



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Gadsden dentist Dr. Gordon Isbell III testified Thursday before the United States Senate HELP Committee in a hearing after being brought to testify by Sen. Tommy Tuberville, a ranking member of the Subcommittee on Children and Families.

The topic of the hearing was, "Examining the Dental Care Crisis in America: How can we make Dental Care More Affordable and More Available?" Isbell, with other dentists, spoke on the need for accessible dentistry in rural areas. "We have free clinics in our practice and have for many years," Isbell said, "and now we have a free clinic in our town."

He also said new dentists need to have more time to get into residency to be able to pay off student loans.

"The big deal is to give them opportunity to get into residencies," he said. "They're not asking for [loan] forgiveness. They're asking for, to be able to go to residency and train where they can have access to care and treat patients."

Isbell has practice since 1981. He's the president of Isbell Dental in Gadsden and is on staff at the Gadsden Regional Hospital and Riverview Regional Hospital.

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"Dr. Isbell has had a distinguished career full of honors and awards from entities across the state of Alabama and across the country," said Tuberville during his introductory remarks. "He's spent years advocating for dentists, their patients, and their communities, and he's managed to accomplish this all while raising five children with his wife, Cindy."

Isbell received his bachelor's degree from Auburn University and his degree in dental medicine the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He also served as president of the Alabama Dental Association from 2017 to 2018.

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