BILL SUMMARY

2nd Session of the 56th Legislature

Bill No.: HB 2759
Version: FULLPCS1
Request Number: 9798
Author: Rep. Osborn, Leslie
Date: 2/19/2018
Impact: \$0

Research Analysis

The proposed committee substitute makes several changes to the State Dental Act. It defines *mobile dental anesthesia provider* and modifies the definition for *dental specialty* and *mobile dental clinic*. It creates a new section of law that requires mobile dental clinics to register with the board and display a permit or designation of registration in plain view.

It removes the definitions for *out-of-state dental hygienist* and *out-of-state dentist* and removes anti-trust language in the act. It requires applicants requesting an emergency temporary license to submit a letter explaining the exigent circumstances along with all application materials, and provides that the granting of a temporary license will be at the sole discretion of the president of the dental board.

Beginning January 1, 2019, dental assistants will be required to complete an infection control class approved by the board within one year from the date of receipt of their permit. Current permit holders will have until December 31, 2019, to complete the class. It stipulates nothing in the act may be construed to allow a dental assistant to work under the supervision of a dental hygienist while acting under direct, indirect or general supervision.

The measure modifies when licensee and permit holders, except for resident, fellowship, and student intern permits, have to submit their renewal applications from the first day in January to the last day in December. Licenses and permits issued by the board will begin on January 1. Beginning in 2020, continuing education requirements will be due at the end of each two-year period, and the measure provides new continuing education amounts.

It stipulates that if a complaint made to the board is anesthesia-related, then the president of the board may, at their discretion, add one or more members of the anesthesia committee to the investigative and review panel. It provides for the board to retain jurisdiction over any person that does not renew their license while an investigation is pending. The measure also lowers the permit amount to operate a commercial dental laboratory from \$300 to \$200, and it establishes a permit fee for mobile dental clinics with a minimum of \$200 and a maximum of \$400. Lastly, a dentist may petition the board to temporarily exempt themselves from the malpractice liability insurance requirement due to health, injury, or other personal exigent circumstance during the year.

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Fiscal Analysis

The PCS to HB 2759 has no fiscal implication to the state.

Other Considerations
None.
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