

BILL SUMMARY

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB3934
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Author:	Rep. Smith
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Research Analysis

The proposed committee substitute for HB 3934 adds that an accredited dental college or accredited dental hygiene program also means a program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CADA) or another accrediting association recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. An accredited dental assisting program or class can be accredited by another accrediting association recognized by the United State Department of Education in addition to existing approval mechanisms.

The measure removes language that would permit a dental assistant to assist the dentist only under the direct supervision or direct visual supervision and control of the dentist. A dental assistant may work under general supervision of a dentist to assist a dental hygienist with a procedures that the hygienist is allowed to perform under general supervision. A dental assistant must work under the direct supervision for a dentist for all procedures except for the situation listed above and Radiation Safety under which they can complete this under the general supervision of a dentist. The measure adds the therapeutic use of lasers to a list of advanced procedures that dental hygienists can perform under general supervision.

The measure updates the definition of *treatment facility* to include a church with a non-profit clinic. The measure provides that Dental Practice Committee under the Board of Dentistry may have up to 18 members, previously they could have up to 10 members. The Board does not have to publish an annual summary of the professional entities registry.

The measure provides that any auxiliary health care provider, licensed or permitted by the state that is working under the supervision of the dentist, will be limited to practicing withing the scope of dentistry. The measure provides that the Board of Dentistry may affiliate as a member state and accept regional exams from the American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX) if certain requirements are met. The ADEX is added as the required exam for many of the provisions of the measure. For advanced procedures other than the administration of local anesthesia, a dental hygienist may apply by filling out an application with required education, training or verification of active practice for the previous two years of the advanced procedures in a dental office. Dentists must pass a regional exam or be board certified in their specialty in order to represent themselves as a specialist or practice as such.

The measure removes a requirement that the name of the dentist providing services appear on billing invoices or statements sent to the patient. Treatment records must also identify the hygienists or dental assistants who performed services on the patient. Licensed dentists must retain a copy of each entry in their calendar for no less than seven years, in addition to the records keeping locations. The measure allows a *patient of record* to be established by teledentistry for emergency or hygiene treatment if the patient is physically located at the office or facility and the dentist is not readily available.

The measure also allows a dentist who has received a dental degree or certificate in a non-United States or Canadian accredited program, to apply for a dental hygiene license if they meet certain requirements.

Prepared By: Suzie Nahach, House Research Staff

Fiscal Analysis

HB3934 amends various provisions of the State Dental Act. In its current form, HB 3934 is not anticipated to have a direct fiscal impact on the state budget..

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Other Considerations

None.