



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HB 2409

dental hygienists; examinations

Sponsors: Representatives Carter, Petersen: Borrelli, et al.

DPA Committee on Health

DPA Caucus and COW

X As Transmitted to the Governor

OVERVIEW

HB 2409 makes changes to the licensing statutes for Medical Doctors (Doctor) and dental hygienist's.

HISTORY

Laws 1935, Chapter 24, § 6 established the State Board of Dental Examiners (Board) which consists of six licensed dentists, two licensed dental hygienists, two public members and a business entity member all appointed by the governor to serve four-year terms. The mission of the Board is to provide professional, courteous service and information to the dental profession and the general public through the examination, licensure and complaint adjudication and enforcement processes and to protect the oral health, safety and welfare of Arizona citizens through a fair and impartial system.

The Board examines and licenses individuals who provide dental services. The Board also accepts complaints against licensed and unlicensed individuals, investigates allegations and takes disciplinary actions for violations of the law. The Board oversees approximately 7,900 licensees practicing in the state.

Arizona Revised Statute § 32-1285 currently states that a dental hygienist must pass the National Dental Hygiene Board Examination, the Western Regional Examining Board Examination and the Arizona Dental Jurisprudence Examination within five years preceding filing the application.

PROVISIONS

- Requires that an applicant for licensure, in addition to the National Dental Hygiene Board Examination and the Arizona Dental Jurisprudence Examination, pass a clinical examination that is either of the following:
 - The Western Regional Examining Board Examination
 - An examination administered by another state or testing agency that is substantially equivalent to the requirements of this state as determined by the Board.
- Exempts a Doctor from Arizona licensure if the Doctor is licensed to practice in another jurisdiction and the Doctor limits his practice to patients with whom the doctor has an already established doctor-patient relationship and who reside outside of Arizona and the Doctor and patient are physically in Arizona no longer than 60 consecutive days.
- Allows an applicant whose license under this chapter has expired, who meets prescribed requirements and pays necessary fees to be licensed through endorsement under specified circumstances.

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- Limits a Doctor who is not licensed in Arizona from practicing more than a total of 60 consecutive or cumulative days per calendar year under a pro bono registration.
- Defines *patient*.
- Codifies the existing requirement that an applicant for licensure submit directly to the Arizona Medical Board, electronically or by hard copy verification of the following:
 - Licensure from every state in which the applicant has ever held a medical license.
 - All hospital affiliations and employment for the five years preceding application and each hospital must verify affiliations or employment on its official letterhead or the electronic equivalent.
- Makes technical and conforming changes.