
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DENTISTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Inadequate dental care is a serious matter and
2 has been identified as a major unmet health concern for low-
3 income children. Department of health data shows that children
4 in Hawaii have significantly higher rates of dental caries,
5 baby-bottle tooth decay, and unmet treatment needs, while they
6 also have lower rates of protective dental sealants. These
7 statistics are markedly higher for children of Hawaiian,
8 Southeast Asian, or Pacific Islander ancestry, and generally
9 worse for children residing in rural areas of the neighbor
10 islands.

11 Access to dental care is further reduced for children with
12 medicaid coverage because of the lack of available dental
13 providers willing to accept medicaid patients. The critical
14 shortage of dentists who serve children covered by medicaid on
15 neighbor islands is so severe that the Med-QUEST Program must
16 spend hundreds of thousands of dollars every year to transport
17 children with their parents to Oahu for care.



1 Federally qualified health centers have been identified as
2 the most appropriate and effective entities to provide dental
3 care to children covered by medicaid. Many of these federally
4 qualified health centers plan to participate in a pediatric
5 dental residency program accredited by the American Dental
6 Association Commission on Dental Accreditation. This program
7 will support increased service and dental recruitment and
8 retention that will support the expansion of federally qualified
9 health center dental capacity.

10 The purpose of this Act is to modify dental licensing
11 regulations to ensure that dentists participating in a multi-
12 year pediatric dental residency program accredited by the
13 American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation
14 can obtain temporary licensure for the duration of their
15 training.

16 SECTION 2. Section 448-12, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended to read as follows:

18 "**§448-12 Temporary license.** (a) The board of dental
19 examiners may issue without examination to any resident or
20 nonresident otherwise qualified to be examined a temporary
21 license to practice dentistry in the employment of the State or
22 any county, or any legally incorporated eleemosynary dispensary



1 or infirmary, private school, or welfare center. The temporary
2 license shall authorize the person to whom the license is issued
3 to practice dentistry exclusively while engaged in that
4 employment and shall be in force until the earliest of the
5 following occurs:

6 (1) The date the person leaves the employment authorized
7 under the temporary license;

8 (2) The three hundred ninety-sixth calendar day following
9 the date of issuance of the temporary license;

10 (3) The date on which the results of the licensure
11 examination taken by the person under this chapter are
12 posted by the board; or

13 (4) The date on which the board revokes the temporary
14 license;

15 provided that the board may revoke the temporary license at any
16 time for cause.

17 No person who has failed an examination shall have the
18 benefit of any temporary license.

19 (b) The board of dental examiners may issue without
20 examination to any resident or nonresident licensed in another
21 state and otherwise qualified to be examined a temporary license
22 to practice dentistry while in the employment of the department



1 of health to provide dental services to Hansen's disease
2 sufferers. The temporary license shall be valid for a period of
3 three years or until the first board examination after the
4 conclusion of the three-year period and only while the person to
5 whom the temporary license is issued is in the employment of the
6 department of health and works under the general direction and
7 supervision of a duly licensed dentist. The temporary license
8 shall not be renewed and shall be reviewed annually by the board
9 of dental examiners for continuance and shall be subject to
10 revocation and suspension as provided in section 448-17. The
11 temporary licensee shall not be eligible for examination by the
12 board of dental examiners while the temporary license is in
13 effect.

14 (c) The board of dental examiners may issue a temporary
15 license without examination to any person otherwise qualified to
16 be examined who is enrolled in a post-doctoral dental residency
17 program that is accredited and recognized by the American Dental
18 Association Commission on Dental Accreditation. The temporary
19 license shall authorize the person to whom the license is issued
20 to practice dentistry exclusively within the dental residency
21 program and shall be in force until the earlier of the following
22 occurs:



1 (1) The date the person completes or leaves the dental
2 residency program; or
3 (2) The date on which the board revokes the temporary
4 license;
5 provided that the board may revoke the temporary license at any
6 time for cause. Post-doctoral dental residents who are granted
7 temporary licenses under this subsection shall act under the
8 direct supervision of the dental residency program faculty
9 licensed in Hawaii and be assigned to training sites restricted
10 to eleemosynary health care organizations, training site
11 hospitals, or other training programs that are affiliated with
12 the dental residency program and visited and accredited by the
13 American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation."

14 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

16

INTRODUCED BY: *B. James*
Della A. Belatti
Melie Carroll
Amirjan
[Signature]

Report Title:

Dental Health; Temporary Licensure

Description:

Allows post-doctoral dental residents enrolled in an American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation accredited dental residency program to be granted a temporary license for the duration of the program.

