

ACT 73

S.B. NO. 452

A Bill for an Act Relating to Dental Hygienists.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:*

SECTION 1. Section 447-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsections (a) and (b) to read as follows:

“(a) Any person eighteen years of age or over and holding or having a diploma or a proper certificate of graduation from an accredited high school employing at least a four year course of instruction and likewise holding and having a diploma or proper certificate of graduation from [an American training] a dental hygiene school [for dental hygienists] accredited by the American Dental Association (A.D.A.) Commission on Dental Accreditation requiring at least a two year course, [accredited and] recognized by the board of dental examiners, upon written application made to and filed with the secretary of the board at least thirty days prior to the date selected by the board for the examination, may be examined by the board for qualification as a dental hygienist.

The application for examination shall be accompanied by the applicant’s certificate of graduation, and at the time of filing the [same,] application, the applicant shall pay to the board application and examination fees, which fees, together with all other fees or charges in this chapter, shall be as provided in rules adopted by the director of commerce and consumer affairs pursuant to chapter 91, and shall be deposited with the director of finance to the credit of the general fund.

(b) Two examinations shall be held in each year at [such] the time [as] the board designates. The examinations shall cover subjects considered essential by the board for a dental hygienist and shall likewise include a practical examination on the removal of deposits or stains from the [exposed] surfaces of the teeth. The board shall furnish a chair and engine, but the applicant shall supply all necessary instruments, materials, and patients for the examination.”

SECTION 2. Section 447-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

“(b) Clinical dental hygiene may be practiced by a licensed dental hygienist. The practice of clinical dental hygiene is defined as the removal of hard and soft deposits and stains from the portion of the crown and root surfaces to the depth of the gingival sulcus, polishing natural and restored surfaces of teeth, the application of preventive chemical agents to the coronal surfaces of teeth, which chemical agents have been approved by the board of dental examiners, and [may] the use [such] of mouth washes as are approved by the board, but shall not [perform] include the performing of any repair work or the preparation thereof, or any other operation on the teeth or tissues of the mouth; provided that nothing herein shall prohibit a dental hygienist from using or applying topically any chemical agent which has been approved in writing by the department of health for any of the purposes set forth in part V of chapter 321, and other procedures delegated by the dentist in accordance with the rules of the board of dental examiners.

In addition, a licensed, certified dental hygienist may [take dental impressions for study casts or] administer intra-oral infiltration local anesthetics under the direct supervision of a dentist; provided that the board of dental examiners shall establish a certification process not later than June 30, 1986, which shall include the establishment of criteria for a comprehensive course work, the completion of which shall be a prerequisite to a licensed dental hygienist taking a certification examination.”

SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New statutory material is underscored.

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

(Approved May 29, 1987.)