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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DENTAL HYGIENISTS.

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

1       SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Act 83, Session Laws  
2 of Hawaii 2017, authorized licensed dental hygienists to operate  
3 under the general supervision of a licensed dentist in specified  
4 circumstances. The legislature recognizes that there has been  
5 some confusion in implementing some of the changes in the  
6 practice of dental hygiene authorized by Act 83.

7       Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to clarify the  
8 circumstances in which a licensed dental hygienist may operate  
9 under the general supervision of a licensed dentist.

10       SECTION 2. Section 447-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
11 amended by amending subsection (f) to read as follows:

12       "(f) No person shall practice dental hygiene, either  
13 gratuitously or for pay, or shall offer or attempt so to  
14 practice, or shall advertise or announce publicly or privately  
15 as being prepared or qualified so to practice without having a  
16 license as provided in this section. The original or a copy of  
17 the certificate of licensure shall be prominently displayed at



1 all times in the workplace where the dental hygienist is  
2 employed or practices. A dental hygienist's pocket  
3 identification card shall be readily available for viewing upon  
4 request to ensure the license is current. A licensed dental  
5 hygienist shall practice only under the supervision of a  
6 licensed dentist as provided in this chapter; provided that a  
7 licensed dental hygienist:

8 (1) May administer under the direct supervision of a  
9 licensed dentist only those categories of intra-oral  
10 block anesthesia listed in the course content  
11 submitted to the board pursuant to subsection (a);

12 (2) May practice under the general supervision of a  
13 licensed dentist and pursuant to an existing treatment  
14 plan with respect to patients of record who have had  
15 an examination by the licensed dentist; provided that  
16 [a] :

17 (A) A licensed dental hygienist shall not perform any  
18 irreversible procedure or administer any intra-  
19 oral block anesthesia under general supervision;  
20 [and]



1        (B) A licensed dental hygienist shall have completed  
2        one year of dental hygiene practice with a  
3        minimum experience of one thousand five hundred  
4        hours;

5        (C) A licensed dental hygienist shall have completed  
6        at least four hours of coursework on medical  
7        emergencies approved by the board of dental  
8        examiners and have obtained a certification of  
9        completion of that coursework;

10       (D) A licensed dental hygienist shall have on file in  
11       every office where the dental hygienist practices  
12       documentation of:

13       (i) Permissible practices for dental hygienists  
14       approved by the board of dental examiners;

15       (ii) Cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification;

16       (iii) Basic life support certification;

17       (iv) Hepatitis B immunization; and

18       (v) Employment by the supervising dentist or a  
19       contractual relationship with the  
20       supervising dentist;



1           (E) Each patient treated by a dental hygienist shall  
2           consent to treatment by the dental hygienist in  
3           the temporary absence of a licensed dentist and  
4           that documentation shall be retained with the  
5           patient's records; and

6           (F) The supervising licensed dentist shall:

7           (i) Have written emergency protocols in effect;

8           (ii) Sign and file with the board of dental  
9           examiners an attestation form approved by  
10          the board of dental examiners authorizing  
11          the general supervision of dental  
12          hygienists;

13          (iii) Conduct an examination of the patient and a  
14          review of the patient's medical history  
15          within the prior twelve-month period and  
16          document that examination and review in the  
17          patient's record;

18          (iv) Order in writing, treatment of the patient  
19          by a dental hygienist;

20          (v) Not permit more than three registered dental  
21          hygienists to be employed by the supervising



# H.B. NO. 1951

licensed dentist in the absence of the  
supervising licensed dentist; and

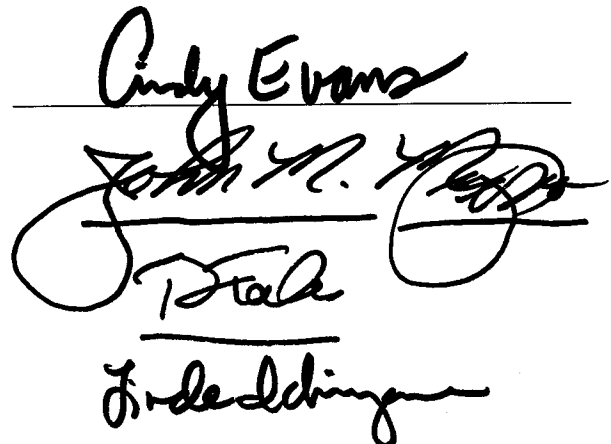
(vi) Not be absent for more than fifteen  
consecutive days from the office where the  
dental hygienist practices; provided that  
after the fifteenth day, no dental  
hygienists at that office employed by the  
supervising licensed dentist shall practice  
within the employment of the supervising  
dentist; and

(3) May practice under the direct supervision of a  
licensed dentist as provided in this chapter."

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

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.

INTRODUCED BY:

  
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JAN 19 2018



# H.B. NO. 1951

**Report Title:**

Dental Hygienists

**Description:**

Clarifies the requirements for dental hygienists to practice under the general supervision of a dentist, including requiring that the dental hygienists complete 1 year of employment, complete 4 hours of medical emergency coursework, and retain various certifications and other documents at each office of employment. Requires the supervising licensed dentist to have written emergency protocols and authorization for the general supervision of dental hygienists; to limit the number of generally supervised dental hygienists to 3; and not take a leave of more than 15 days from the office where a dental hygienist practices.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

