

ACT 285

S.B. NO. 1127

A Bill for an Act Relating to Dental Hygienists.

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

SECTION 1. Section 447-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“§447-3 Employment of and practice by dental hygienists. (a) Any licensed dentist, legally incorporated eleemosynary dental dispensary or infirmary, private school, or welfare center, the State or any county, may employ licensed dental hygienists.

(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 use such mouth washes as are approved by the board, but shall not perform 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, [entitled "Dental Health",] and other procedures delegated by the dentist in accordance with the rules [and regulations] of the board of dental examiners. [He] 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.

(c) The licensed certified dental hygienist may operate in the office of any licensed dentist, or legally incorporated eleemosynary dental dispensary or infirmary, private school, or welfare center, or in any building owned or occupied by the State or any county, but only under the aforesaid employment and under the direct or general supervision of a licensed dentist; provided[,] that in the private practice of dentistry, the hygienist shall be under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist. No dental hygienist may establish or operate any separate care facility which exclusively renders dental hygiene services."

SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved June 8, 1985.)