

A Bill for an Act Relating to Dental Assistants.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that thirty-eight states and the District of Columbia require some form of certification or licensure for dental assistants. However, dental assistants are not currently required to be certified or otherwise regulated in Hawaii. The legislature notes that the University of Hawaii, Kapiolani community college offers a dental assisting certification program, accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental

Association. Furthermore, Kapiolani community college's dental assisting program offers pathways to certification as a certified dental assistant via passage of an examination offered by the Dental Assisting National Board, Inc.

Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the auditor to conduct a sunrise analysis on the effects of regulation of dental assistants in the State via the certification options for dental assistants offered by Kapiolani community college's dental assisting program.

SECTION 2. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, the auditor shall conduct a sunrise analysis on the effects of regulation of dental assistants in the State via the certification requirements for dental assistants offered by the University of Hawaii Kapiolani community college's dental assisting program.

(b) The auditor shall examine the following pathways to certification for dental assistants:

- (1) Successful completion of the certificate of achievement in dental assisting program at Kapiolani Community College and successful completion of the certified dental assistant examination offered by the Dental Assisting National Board, Inc.; and
- (2) Successful completion of the certificate of competence in dental assisting from Kapiolani community college, plus employer-verified proof of more than 3,500 hours of employment as a dental assistant, and successful completion of the certified dental assistant examination offered by the Dental Assisting National Board, Inc.

(c) The auditor shall submit a report of findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2018.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

(Approved July 5, 2017.)