

CHAPTER 140

(Senate Bill 261)

AN ACT concerning

Oral Health - Dental Hygienists - Access to Care

FOR the purpose of authorizing the holder of a certain license to practice dental hygiene ~~to practice dental hygiene~~ under the general supervision of a dentist in certain facilities and health departments; requiring a dental facility in which a dental hygienist is authorized to practice under the general supervision of a dentist to ensure that certain criteria are met; requiring a facility to report certain information to the State Board of Dental Examiners before it operates under general supervision; requiring a facility operating under general supervision to report certain information to the Board; providing for the construction of this Act; defining a certain term; requiring the Board to make certain reports to the General Assembly; ~~providing for the termination of this Act~~; making this Act an emergency measure; and generally relating to the practice of dental hygiene.

BY adding to

Article - Health Occupations

Section 4-308(h)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2000 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Health Occupations

4-308.

(H) (1) IN THIS SUBSECTION, "GENERAL SUPERVISION" MEANS SUPERVISION OF A DENTAL HYGIENIST BY A DENTIST, WHERE THE DENTIST MAY OR MAY NOT BE PRESENT WHEN THE DENTAL HYGIENIST PERFORMS THE DENTAL HYGIENE PROCEDURES.

(2) WHILE IT IS EFFECTIVE, A GENERAL LICENSE TO PRACTICE DENTAL HYGIENE ISSUED UNDER THIS TITLE AUTHORIZES THE LICENSEE TO PRACTICE DENTAL HYGIENE UNDER THE GENERAL SUPERVISION OF A LICENSED DENTIST IN:

(I) A DENTAL FACILITY OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE FEDERAL, THE STATE, OR A LOCAL GOVERNMENT; OR

(II) A PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE OR A COUNTY.

(3) A FACILITY IN WHICH A DENTAL HYGIENIST IS AUTHORIZED TO PRACTICE UNDER THE GENERAL SUPERVISION OF A LICENSED DENTIST SHALL ENSURE THAT: