
SENATE BILL 5293

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By Senators Franklin, Fairley, Keiser and Kohl-Welles

Read first time 01/16/2007. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to dental hygiene; and amending RCW 18.29.056 and
2 18.29.220.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.29.056 and 1997 c 37 s 2 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) Dental hygienists licensed under this chapter with two years'
7 practical clinical experience with a licensed dentist within the
8 preceding five years may be employed or retained by health care
9 facilities to perform authorized dental hygiene operations and services
10 without dental supervision, limited to removal of deposits and stains
11 from the surfaces of the teeth, application of topical preventive or
12 prophylactic agents, polishing and smoothing restorations, and
13 performance of root planing and soft-tissue curettage, but shall not
14 perform injections of anesthetic agents, administration of nitrous
15 oxide, or diagnosis for dental treatment. The performance of dental
16 hygiene operations and services in health care facilities shall be
17 limited to patients, students, and residents of the facilities. For
18 dental planning and dental treatment, dental hygienists shall refer
19 patients to licensed dentists.

1 (2) For the purposes of this section, "health care facilities" are
2 limited to hospitals; nursing homes; centers where seniors congregate;
3 home health agencies; group homes serving the elderly, (~~handicapped~~)
4 individuals with disabilities, and juveniles; state-operated
5 institutions under the jurisdiction of the department of social and
6 health services or the department of corrections; and federal, state,
7 and local public health facilities, state or federally funded community
8 and migrant health centers, and tribal clinics.

9 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.29.220 and 2001 c 93 s 3 are each amended to read
10 as follows:

11 (1) For low-income, rural, and other at-risk populations and in
12 coordination with local public health jurisdictions and local oral
13 health coalitions, a dental hygienist licensed in this state as of
14 April 19, 2001, may assess for and apply sealants and apply fluoride
15 varnishes in community-based sealant programs carried out in schools
16 without attending the department's school sealant endorsement program.

17 (2) For low-income, rural, and other at-risk populations and in
18 coordination with local public health jurisdictions and local oral
19 health coalitions, dental hygienists who are school sealant endorsed
20 under RCW 43.70.650 may assess for and apply sealants and fluoride
21 varnishes, and may remove deposits and stains from the surfaces of
22 teeth, in community-based sealant programs carried out in schools.

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