

---

SENATE BILL 5621

---

State of Washington                      64th Legislature                      2015 Regular Session

By Senators King, Lillas, Fain, Hobbs, and Angel

Read first time 01/26/15. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1            AN ACT Relating to the definition of the practice of dentistry;  
2 and amending RCW 18.32.020.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.32.020 and 2011 c 336 s 477 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6            A person practices dentistry, within the meaning of this chapter,  
7 who (1) (~~represents himself or herself as being able to diagnose,~~  
8 ~~treat, remove stains and concretions from teeth, operate or prescribe~~  
9 ~~for any disease, pain, injury, deficiency, deformity, or physical~~  
10 ~~condition of the human teeth, alveolar process, gums, or jaw, or (2)~~  
11 ~~offers or undertakes by any means or methods to diagnose, treat,~~  
12 ~~remove stains or concretions from teeth, operate or prescribe for any~~  
13 ~~disease, pain, injury, deficiency, deformity, or physical condition~~  
14 ~~of the same, or take impressions of the teeth or jaw, or (3))~~  
15 undertakes to provide the evaluation, diagnosis, prevention or  
16 treatment of diseases, disorders and conditions of the teeth, oral  
17 cavity, maxillofacial area and the adjacent and associated structures  
18 and their impact on the human body, within the scope of his or her  
19 dental education, training and experience, in accordance with  
20 applicable law; (2) owns, maintains, or operates an office for the  
21 practice of dentistry, or ((+4)) (3) engages in any of the practices

1 included in the curricula of recognized and approved dental schools  
2 or colleges, or ~~((+5))~~ (4) professes to the public by any method to  
3 furnish, supply, construct, reproduce, or repair any prosthetic  
4 denture, bridge, appliance, or other structure to be worn in the  
5 human mouth.

6 The fact that a person uses any dental degree, or designation, or  
7 any card, device, directory, poster, sign, or other media whereby he  
8 or she represents himself or herself to be a dentist, shall be prima  
9 facie evidence that such person is engaged in the practice of  
10 dentistry.

11 X-ray diagnosis as to the method of dental practice in which the  
12 diagnosis and examination is made of the normal and abnormal  
13 structures, parts, or functions of the human teeth, the alveolar  
14 process, maxilla, mandible or soft tissues adjacent thereto, is  
15 hereby declared to be the practice of dentistry. Any person other  
16 than a regularly licensed physician or surgeon who makes any  
17 diagnosis or interpretation or explanation, or attempts to diagnose  
18 or to make any interpretation or explanation of the registered shadow  
19 or shadows of any part of the human teeth, alveolar process, maxilla,  
20 mandible or soft tissues adjacent thereto by the use of X-ray is  
21 declared to be engaged in the practice of dentistry, medicine, or  
22 surgery.

23 The practice of dentistry includes the performance of any dental  
24 or oral and maxillofacial surgery. "Oral and maxillofacial surgery"  
25 means the specialty of dentistry that includes the diagnosis and  
26 surgical and adjunctive treatment of diseases, injuries, and defects  
27 of the hard and soft tissues of the oral and maxillofacial region.

--- END ---