MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 1469

H.P. 1074

House of Representatives, March 27, 2003

An Act To Raise the Fee Caps of the Board of Dental Examiners

Submitted by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Reference to the Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative SULLIVAN of Biddeford. Cosponsored by Senator BROMLEY of Cumberland.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

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Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §1084, as amended by PL 1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §66, is further amended to read:

§1084. Licenses; fees

The board shall issue under its seal to any person who successfully meets all licensure requirements a license to practice dentistry in this State, signed by the members of the board. A dentist shall publicly exhibit the dentist's license. The license is prima facie evidence of authority to practice dentistry in this State, except that it is unlawful for a person to practice dentistry in this State after the expiration date that appears on the license unless the practitioner pays to the board on or before January 1st of even-numbered years a fee of not more than \$200 \$400 to be determined by the board, and meets other conditions that the board may require. Upon receipt of the required fee, the board shall issue a renewal practitioner's license, which the practitioner shall place beside or attach to the practitioner's initial license. Practitioners who have not paid as provided and who otherwise qualify for renewal may be reinstated upon payment of a fee to be determined by the board of not more than \$190 \$200 if paid before February 1st. A license to practice is automatically suspended on February 1st for nonpayment of the license renewal fee and may be reinstated, if approved by the board, on payment of a fee to be determined by the board of not more than \$200 \$400. applicant having paid the application fee shall pay either the licensure fee, if the applicant applies even-numbered year, or half the biennial licensure fee if the applicant applies in an odd-numbered year.

Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §1085, as amended by PL 2001, c. 260, Pt. B, §3, is further amended to read:

§1085. Endorsement; fees

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The board is authorized, at its discretion, without the examination as provided, to issue a license to an applicant who furnishes proof, satisfactory to the board, that the applicant has been licensed to practice dentistry in another state after full compliance with the requirements of its dental laws. If an applicant is licensed to practice dentistry in another state, that applicant's professional education may not be less than is required in this State and the applicant must have been at least 3 years in actual practice in the state in which the license was granted. Applicants for licensure by endorsement who meet the requirements of this section must be interviewed in person by the

board or members of the board, prior to being issued a license.

Every license of this type issued by the board must state upon its face the grounds upon which it is issued and the applicant may be required to furnish proof upon affidavit. The fee for the license is determined by the board, but may not be more than \$300 \$500.

Sec. 3. 32 MRSA §1087, as amended by PL 1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §70, is further amended to read:

§1087. Fee for duplicate license

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An applicant for a duplicate license granted upon proof of loss of the original shall pay a fee of \$15 no more than \$50.

Sec. 4. 32 MRSA §1097, as amended by PL 1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §81, is further amended to read:

§1097. Application; fee

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An eligible person desiring to practice dental hygiene must make written application to the Board of Dental Examiners to take the examination. The application must be accompanied by a fee to be determined by the board not to exceed \$100 \$200. Applicants for licensure shall pay a fee set by the board for the examination. The board may recognize a nationally or regionally administered examination for applicants to practice dental hygiene in the State.

Sec. 5. 32 MRSA §1098, as amended by PL 1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §82, is further amended to read:

§1098. License; biennial fee

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The board shall issue a license to practice as a dental hygienist in this State to an individual who has met the licensure requirements. The license must be exhibited publicly at the person's place of employment. The license authorizes practice as a dental hygienist in this State for the year in which it is issued until the expiration date that appears on the license. On or before January 1st of each odd-numbered year, the dental hygienist must pay to the board a license renewal fee of not more than \$199 \$200 to be determined by the board or 1/2 of the biennial licensure fee if the applicant applies in even-numbered year. Dental hygienists who have not paid provided must be reinstated upon payment of a fee of not more than \$59 \$100 to be determined by the board if paid before February 1st of the year in which license renewal is due. Failure to be properly licensed by February 1st results in automatic suspension of a license to practice dental hygiene. Reinstatement may be made, if approved by the board, by payment to the secretary-treasurer of the board of a fee determined by the board of not more than \$100 \$200.

The board may issue temporary licenses to dental hygienists who present credentials satisfactory to the board. The board may charge a fee of up to \$25 \$50 for a temporary license.

Sec. 6. 32 MRSA §1098-A, as amended by PL 1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §83, is further amended to read:

§1098-A. Fee for duplicate license

An applicant for a duplicate license granted upon proof of loss of the original shall pay a fee of \$15 no more than \$50.

Sec. 7. 32 MRSA $\S1099$, as amended by PL 1995, c. 590, $\S2$, is further amended to read:

§1099. Endorsement

The board may at its discretion, without examination, issue a license to an applicant to practice dental hygiene who furnishes proof satisfactory to the board that the dental hygienist has been duly licensed to practice in another state after full compliance with the requirements of its dental laws, except that the professional education may not be less than is required in this State. The board may require letters of reference as to ability. Applicants for licensure by endorsement who meet the requirements of this section must be interviewed in person by the board or members of the board prior to being issued a license. Every license so given must state upon its face that it was granted on the basis of endorsement. The fee for that license must be determined by the board, but may not be more than \$190 \$200.

- Sec. 8. 32 MRSA §1100-D, sub-§3, as amended by PL 1995, c. 590, §6, is further amended to read:
- 3. Application for examination; fee. An eligible person desiring to take an examination in order to become licensed as a denturist shall make a written application to the board to take the examination. This application must be accompanied by an application fee, to be determined by the board, but not to exceed \$199 \$200 and an examination fee to be determined by the board that may not exceed the actual cost of the examination. The application fee includes-the-fee-fer-the-initial-license-and is nonrefundable.
- Sec. 9. 32 MRSA §1100-E, sub-§3, as amended by PL 1995, c. 590, §7, is further amended to read:

- 3. Renewal; renewal fee. After a license has been issued under subsection 2, and on or before January 1st of odd-numbered years, a denturist must pay to the board a license renewal fee of not more than \$190 \$200 to be determined by the board in order to renew the license and to continue to be authorized to practice as a denturist in the State or 1/2 the biennial licensure fee if application is made in an even-numbered year.
- After the requirements for a license renewal, including any necessary continuing education, have been met, a renewal card of the denturist's license must be issued, which the denturist shall place beside or attach to the denturist's initial license.

 Denturists who have not paid as provided by January 1st must be reinstated upon payment of a fee, to be determined by the board, of not more than \$50 \$100 if paid by February 1st. A license to practice is automatically suspended on February 1st and may be reinstated, if approved by the board, on payment of a fee to be determined by the board of not more than \$100 \$200.
 - Sec. 10. 32 MRSA §1100-E, sub-§4, as amended by PL 2001, c. 260, Pt. B, §4, is further amended to read:
 - Endorsement. The board, at its discretion, without examination, may issue a license to an applicant to practice as a denturist who furnishes proof satisfactory to the board that the denturist has been licensed to practice and has actively practiced for a period of 3 years in another state or Canadian province after full compliance with the requirements of its licensure requirements laws, if the are, essentials, at least equivalent to those of this State. The board may require letters of reference about the denturist. Applicants for licensure by endorsement who meet the requirements of this section must be interviewed in person by the board, or members of the board, prior to being issued a license. Every license so given must state upon its face that it was granted on the basis of endorsement. The fee for the license may not exceed \$100 \$200.
 - Sec. 11. 32 MRSA §1100-E, sub-§4-A, as amended by PL 1995, c. 590, §7, is further amended to read:
- 42 **4-A.** Duplicate license. A licensee must be issued a duplicate license by the board for a fee of \$15 no more than \$50 upon attestation of loss of the original.
- Sec. 12. 32 MRSA §1100-N, as amended by PL 1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §99, is further amended to read:

§1100-N. Application

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2	To apply for a license to practice dental radiography, an applicant shall submit a written application with supporting documents to the board, on forms provided by the board, and shall
4	pay an application fee, which may not exceed \$50 \$100.
6	Sec. 13. 32 MRSA §1100-O, as amended by PL 1993, c. 600, Pt.
8	A, §99, is further amended to read:

 $\S1100-O.$ Renewal

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1. Term of license; renewal. All licenses to practice dental radiography issued by the board are valid for 5 years from the date of issuance and may be renewed upon application to the board and payment of a renewal fee, which may not exceed \$50 \$100.

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SUMMARY

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This bill increases the fee caps for the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Board of Dental Examiners and deletes the exclusion of an initial license fee for denturists to make it consistent with all other license categories.