MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1   L.D. 1085

2   Date: 5/4/17   (Filing No. H-119)

3   **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

4   Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

5   **STATE OF MAINE**

6   **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

7   **128TH LEGISLATURE**

8   **FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

9   COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "*A*" to H.P. 763, L.D. 1085, Bill, "An Act To
10   Amend the Requirements for Licensure as an Independent Practice Dental Hygienist"

11   Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and
12   inserting the following:

13   'Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not
14   become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

15   **Whereas,** Maine is experiencing a critical shortage of licensed dentists, especially in
16   rural areas of the State; and

17   **Whereas,** this legislation removes a statutory barrier that currently prevents or
18   delays certain dental hygienists from obtaining authority to open independent practices in
19   this State; and

20   **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within
21   the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as
22   immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
23   therefore,

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

25   **Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §18345, sub-§2, ¶A,** as enacted by PL 2015, c. 429, §21, is
26   amended to read:

27   A. For independent practice dental hygienist authority;~~,~~ verification of 2,000 work
28   hours of clinical practice.

29   ~~(1) If the applicant has a bachelor's degree or higher in dental hygiene from a~~
30   ~~dental hygiene program accredited by the American Dental Association~~
31   ~~Commission on Dental Accreditation or its successor organization, verification of~~
32   ~~2,000 work hours of clinical practice during the 4 years preceding the~~
33   ~~application; or~~

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1   (2) If the applicant has an associate degree in dental hygiene from a dental
2   hygiene program accredited by the American Dental Association Commission on
3   Dental Accreditation or its successor organization, verification of 5,000 work
4   hours of clinical practice during the 6 years preceding the application.

5   For purposes of meeting the clinical practice requirements of this paragraph, the
6   applicant's hours in a private dental practice or nonprofit setting under the supervision
7   of a dentist may be included as well as the applicant's hours as a public health dental
8   hygienist or, prior to the effective date of this Act July 29, 2016, as a dental hygienist
9   with public health supervision status;

10   **Emergency clause.**   In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this
11   legislation takes effect when approved.'

12   SUMMARY

13   This amendment adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause to the bill and
14   requires all applicants for independent practice dental hygienist authority to complete
15   2,000 hours of clinical practice. This amendment also removes the timeframe in which
16   those clinical practice hours must be obtained and removes the distinction in current law
17   between applicants with a bachelor's degree in dental hygiene and applicants with an
18   associate degree in dental hygiene.

19   **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**
20   **(See attached)**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1085   LR 986(02)

An Act To Amend the Requirements for Licensure as an Independent Practice Dental Hygienist

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment 'A' (H-119)
Committee: Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Additional costs to the Board of Dental Practice, affiliated with the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, to implement the requirements of this legislation can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.