

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2021

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Legislative Document

No. 1457

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H.P. 1073

House of Representatives, April 12, 2021

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### **An Act To Improve Access to Dental Hygiene by Authorizing Dental Hygienists To Perform Dental Hygiene Diagnosis**

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Received by the Clerk of the House on April 8, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative GROHOSKI of Ellsworth.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BROOKS of Lewiston, CRAVEN of Lewiston, WHITE of Waterville.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §18302, sub-§6-A** is enacted to read:

3 **6-A. Dental hygiene diagnosis.** "Dental hygiene diagnosis" means the identification  
4 of an existing oral health problem that a dental hygienist is qualified and licensed to treat.

5 **Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §18374, sub-§1, ¶A,** as enacted by PL 2015, c. 429, §21, is  
6 repealed.

7 **Sec. 3. 32 MRSA §18374, sub-§2, ¶TT,** as amended by PL 2017, c. 388, §19, is  
8 further amended to read:

9 TT. Smooth and polish amalgam restorations; ~~and~~

10 **Sec. 4. 32 MRSA §18374, sub-§2, ¶VV,** as amended by PL 2017, c. 388, §19, is  
11 further amended to read:

12 VV. Obtain impressions for study casts, athletic mouth guards, custom trays, bleaching  
13 trays, fluoride trays, opposing models, retainers and stents; ~~;~~

14 **Sec. 5. 32 MRSA §18374, sub-§2, ¶ZZ** is enacted to read:

15 ZZ. Perform dental hygiene diagnoses; and

16 **Sec. 6. 32 MRSA §18374, sub-§2, ¶AAA** is enacted to read:

17 AAA. Administer local anesthesia or nitrous oxide analgesia, as long as the dental  
18 hygienist or faculty dental hygienist has authority to administer the relevant medication  
19 pursuant to section 18345, subsection 2, paragraph D or E.

20 **Sec. 7. 32 MRSA §18375, sub-§1, ¶P,** as enacted by PL 2015, c. 429, §21, is  
21 amended to read:

22 P. Expose and process radiographs, including but not limited to vertical and horizontal  
23 bitewing films, periapical films, panoramic images and full-mouth series, under  
24 protocols developed by the board as long as the independent practice dental hygienist  
25 has a written agreement with a licensed dentist that provides that the dentist is available  
26 to interpret all dental radiographs within 21 days from the date the radiograph is taken  
27 and that the dentist will sign a radiographic review and findings form; ~~and~~

28 **Sec. 8. 32 MRSA §18375, sub-§1, ¶Q,** as enacted by PL 2015, c. 429, §21, is  
29 amended to read:

30 Q. Prescribe, dispense or administer anticavity toothpastes or topical gels with 1.1%  
31 or less sodium fluoride and oral rinses with 0.05%, 0.2%, 0.44% or 0.5% sodium  
32 fluoride, as well as chlorhexidine gluconate oral rinse. For the purposes of this  
33 paragraph, "topical" includes superficial and intraoral application; and

34 **Sec. 9. 32 MRSA §18375, sub-§1, ¶R** is enacted to read:

35 R. Perform dental hygiene diagnoses.

36 **Sec. 10. 32 MRSA §18376, sub-§1, ¶FF,** as amended by PL 2017, c. 388, §23, is  
37 further amended to read:

38 FF. Obtain impressions for and deliver athletic mouth guards and custom fluoride  
39 trays; ~~and~~

