

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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HOUSE

NO. 274

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*House of Representatives, Feb. 13, 1917.*

*Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs and five hundred copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.*

*W. R. ROIX, Clerk.*

*Presented by Mr. Williams of Auburn.*

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE  
HUNDRED AND SEVENTEEN

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AN ACT allowing dentists to employ women assistants who shall be known as dental hygienists.

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

Section 1. Any registered or licensed dentist may employ  
2 women assistants who shall be known as dental hygienists.  
3 Such dental hygienists may remove lime deposits, accretions  
4 and stains from the exposed surfaces of the teeth and di-  
5 rectly beneath the free margin of the gum, but shall not  
6 perform any other operation on the teeth or mouth or on  
7 any diseased tissues of the mouth. They may operate in

8 the office of any registered or licensed dentist or in any pub-  
9 lic or private institution under the general supervision of a  
10 registered or licensed dentist. The state board of dental  
11 examiners may revoke the license of any registered or  
12 licensed dentist who shall permit any dental hygienists  
13 operating under his supervision to perform any operation  
14 other than that permitted under the provisions of this sec-  
15 tion.

Sect. 2. No person shall enter practice as a dental  
2 hygienist in this state until she has passed an examination  
3 given her by the board of dental examiners of this state, or  
4 a sub-committee of said board which it may appoint, under  
5 such rules and regulations as it may deem fit and proper  
6 to formulate. The fee for said examination shall be ten  
7 dollars (\$10.00) and any applicant failing to pass said exam-  
8 ination shall be entitled to one additional examination with-  
9 out further cost. The fee for each re-examination after the  
10 first shall be five dollars (\$5.00). The said board of dental  
11 examiners shall issue certificates of ability to practice as  
12 dental hygienists in this state to those who have passed said  
13 examination, provided, however, that no person shall be  
14 entitled to such certificate unless she shall be eighteen years  
15 of age, of good moral character and shall have had an edu-  
16 tion equivalent to that attained by one year's attendance  
17 upon the class A high schools of this state as defined by  
18 Section 73 of Chapter 16 of the Revised Statutes of 1916,  
19 and unless she is a graduate of a reputable training school

20 for dental hygienists or shall present a sworn statement  
21 by a dentist licensed to practice dentistry in his state that  
22 she has completed a course of at least six (6) months  
23 training as a dental hygienist under him.

Sect. 3. The board of dental examiners of this state may  
2 at its discretion without the examination as herein above  
3 provided, issue its certificate to any applicant therefor who  
4 shall furnish proof satisfactory to said board that she has  
5 been duly licensed to practice as a dental hygienist in another  
6 state after full compliance with the requirements of its  
7 dental laws; provided however, that her professional edu-  
8 cation shall not be less than that required in this state.  
9 Every certificate so given shall state upon its face the  
10 grounds upon which it is granted and the applicant may be  
11 required to furnish her proof upon affidavit. The fee for  
12 such certificate shall be ten dollars (10.00).

Sect. 4. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith  
2 are hereby repealed.