

THE FLORIDA SENATE
2012 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED
Committee on Health Regulation

SB 1040 — Practice of Dentistry

by Senators Bogdanoff, Oelrich, and Altman

The bill specifies the entity by which 2-year dental education programs for foreign-trained dentists wishing to be licensed in Florida must be accredited.

The bill allows dental hygienist licensure applicants to have taken certain examinations anytime prior to licensure application, rather than within 10 years of application, and adds certain criteria to licensure requirements relating to prior disciplinary action or to criminal convictions related to the practice of a health care profession. The bill designates the Dental Hygiene Examination produced by the American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX) as the official practical examination for licensure of dental hygienists in Florida and specifies certain conditions related to Florida representation on ADEX governing boards as well as other conditions. The bill provides for licensure of dental hygienists who took the ADEX in another state.

The bill also allows dental hygienists to administer local anesthesia under the direct supervision of a dentist if the hygienist completes an educational course in anesthesia administration, maintains CPR certification, and is certified by the Board of Dentistry (a \$35 fee is required). Anesthesia certification never has to be renewed.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 33-7; House 115-0