By Senator Dockery

15-1807-04 See HB 1199

A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to dentistry; amending s. 466.004, F.S.; revising membership, meetings, 3 4 and duties of the Council on Dental Hygiene; 5 providing duties of the Board of Dentistry with 6 respect to rule and policy recommendations of 7 the council; providing for resolution by the Department of Health of disagreements between 8 9 the council and board with respect to such recommendations; amending s. 466.023, F.S.; 10 authorizing dental hygienists to assess and 11 12 refer patients for dental examinations at certain facilities, institutions, and places; 13 providing an effective date. 14

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 466.004, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

466.004 Board of Dentistry.--

(2) To advise the board, it is the intent of the Legislature that councils be appointed as specified in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c). The department shall provide administrative support to the councils and shall provide public notice of meetings and agenda of the councils. Councils shall include at least one board member who shall chair the council and shall include nonboard members. All council members shall be appointed by the board chair. Council members shall be appointed for 4-year terms, and all members shall be eligible for reimbursement of expenses in the manner of board members.

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(a) A Council on Dental Hygiene shall be appointed by the board chair and shall include one dental hygienist member of the board, who shall chair the council, one dental member of the board, and four three dental hygienists recommended by the Florida Dental Hygiene Association who are actively engaged in the practice of dental hygiene in this state. The council shall meet at least three times each calendar year. Additional meetings may be called at the request of the board chair, a majority of the members of the council board, or the council chair. The council is charged with the responsibility of and shall meet for the purpose of developing all rules and policies relating to for recommendation to the board, which the board shall consider, on matters pertaining to that part of dentistry consisting of educational, preventive, or therapeutic dental hygiene services; dental hygiene licensure, discipline, or regulation; and dental hygiene education, which the council shall submit to the board as recommendation. Rule and policy recommendations of the council shall be considered by the board immediately following the submission of the proposed rule in the same manner as it considers rule and policy recommendations from designated subcommittees of the board. Any rule or policy proposed by the board pertaining to the specified part of dentistry defined by this paragraph shall be referred to the council for a recommendation prior to final action by the board. If the council disagrees with such finding of the board, the department shall determine whether the board must ratify the recommendation. Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) and subsection (3) of section 466.023, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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466.023 Dental hygienists; scope and area of practice.--

- (2) Dental hygienists may perform their duties:
- (c) Upon a patient of record of a dentist who has issued a prescription for the services of a dental hygienist, which prescription shall be valid for 2 years unless a shorter length of time is designated by the dentist, in:
 - 1. Licensed public and private health facilities. +
- 2. Other public institutions of the state and federal government. $\dot{\tau}$
 - 3. Public and private educational institutions.÷
 - 4. The home of a nonambulatory patient.; and
- 5. Other places in accordance with the rules of the board.

However, the dentist issuing such prescription shall remain responsible for the care of such patient. As used in this subsection, "patient of record" means a patient upon whom a dentist has taken a complete medical history, completed a clinical examination, recorded any pathological conditions, and prepared a treatment plan.

(3) Dental hygienists may, without supervision, provide educational programs, faculty or staff training programs, and authorized fluoride rinse programs; assess and refer patients for dental examinations at those facilities, institutions, and places listed under paragraph (2)(c); and provide other services which do not involve diagnosis or treatment of dental conditions and which services are approved by rule of the board.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.