By the Committee on Health Policy

588-01080-14 2014664

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to health access dental licenses; amending ss. 466.0067 and 466.00671, F.S.; deleting the requirement that a license applicant or renewing licensee not have been reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank; authorizing the Board of Dentistry to deny licensure to an applicant or renewing licensee who has committed or is under investigation or prosecution for certain violations; amending s. 466.00673, F.S.; extending the future repeal of provisions authorizing the health access dental license; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 466.0067, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

466.0067 Application for Health access dental license application.—The Legislature finds that there is an important state interest in attracting dentists to practice in underserved health access settings in this state and further, that allowing out-of-state dentists who meet certain criteria to practice in health access settings without the supervision of a dentist licensed in this state is substantially related to achieving this important state interest. Therefore,

(1) Notwithstanding the requirements of s. 466.006, the board shall grant a health access dental license to an applicant seeking to practice dentistry in this state in health access settings who meets all of the following requirements as defined

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in s. 466.003 to an applicant that:

 $\underline{\text{(a)}}$  (1) Files an appropriate application approved by the board.

(b) (2) Pays an application license fee for a health access dental license, <u>a</u> laws-and-rule exam fee, and an initial licensure fee <u>as specified under</u>. The fees specified in this subsection may not differ from an applicant seeking licensure pursuant to s. 466.006.÷

 $\underline{\text{(c)}}$  Has not been convicted of or pled nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, any felony or misdemeanor related to the practice of a health care profession.

 $\underline{\text{(d)}}$  Submits proof of graduation from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association or its successor agency.

 $\underline{\text{(e)}}$  Submits documentation that she or he has completed, or will obtain prior to licensure, continuing education equivalent to this state's requirement for dentists licensed under s. 466.006 for the last full reporting biennium before applying for a health access dental license.

 $\underline{(f)}$  (6) Submits proof of her or his successful completion of parts I and II of the dental examination  $\underline{of}$  by the National Board of Dental Examiners and a state or regional clinical dental licensing examination that the board has determined effectively measures the applicant's ability to practice safely.

 $\underline{(g)}$  (7) Currently holds a valid, active, dental license in good standing which has not been revoked, suspended, restricted, or otherwise disciplined from another of the United States, the District of Columbia, or a United States territory.

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 $\underline{\text{(h)}}$  (8) Has never had a license revoked from another of the United States, the District of Columbia, or a United States territory.

- $\underline{\text{(i)}}$  Has never failed the examination specified in s. 466.006, unless the applicant was reexamined pursuant to s. 466.006 and received a license to practice dentistry in this state.
- (10) Has not been reported to the National Practitioner

  Data Bank, unless the applicant successfully appealed to have

  his or her name removed from the data bank;
- <u>(j) (11)</u> Submits proof that he or she has been engaged in the active, clinical practice of dentistry providing direct patient care for 5 years immediately preceding the date of application, or <u>if in instances when</u> the applicant has graduated from an accredited dental school within the preceding 5 years, submits proof of continuous clinical practice providing direct patient care since graduation.; and
- $\underline{\text{(k)}}$  (12) Has passed an examination covering the laws and rules of the practice of dentistry in this state as described in s. 466.006(4)(a).
- (2) The board may deny a health access dental license to an applicant who has committed, or is under investigation or prosecution for, an act that would constitute a basis for discipline pursuant to chapter 456 or this chapter.
- Section 2. Section 466.00671, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 466.00671 Renewal of the Health access dental license renewal.—
  - (1) A health access dental licensee shall apply for renewal

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each biennium. At the time of renewal, the licensee shall sign a statement that she or he has complied with all continuing education requirements of an active dentist licensee. The board shall renew a health access dental license for an applicant who meets all of the following requirements that:

- (a) Submits documentation, as approved by the board, from the employer in the health access setting that the licensee has at all times pertinent remained an employee.  $\div$
- (b) Has not been convicted of or pled nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, any felony or misdemeanor related to the practice of a health care profession.
- (c) Has paid a renewal fee <u>identical to the fee</u> set by the board <u>under</u>. The fee specified herein may not differ from the renewal fee adopted by the board pursuant to s. 466.013. The department may provide payment for these fees through the dentist's salary, benefits, or other department funds.
- (d) Has not failed the examination specified in s. 466.006 since initially receiving a health access dental license or since the last renewal.; and
- (e) Has not been reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank, unless the applicant successfully appealed to have his or her name removed from the data bank.
- (2) The board may undertake measures to independently verify the health access dental licensee's ongoing employment status in the health access setting.
- (3) The board may deny health access dental licensure renewal to an applicant who has committed, or is under investigation or prosecution for, an act that would constitute a basis for discipline pursuant to chapter 456 or this chapter.

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Section 3. Section 466.00673, Florida Statutes, is amended to read

466.00673 Repeal of a health access dental license.— Effective January 1,  $\underline{2020}$   $\underline{2015}$ , ss. 466.0067-466.00673 are repealed unless reenacted by the Legislature. Any health access dental license issued before January 1,  $\underline{2020}$   $\underline{2015}$ , shall remain valid according to ss. 466.0067-466.00673, without effect from repeal.

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.