

By Senator Fasano

11-402A-03

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to dental licensure
3 examinations; amending s. 466.006, F.S., and
4 creating s. 466.0065, F.S.; allowing certain
5 dental students to take regional licensure
6 examinations under specified conditions;
7 restricting the applicability of examination
8 results; requiring approval by the Board of
9 Dentistry and providing prerequisites to such
10 approval; providing an effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 466.006, Florida
15 Statutes, is amended to read:

16 466.006 Examination of dentists.--

17 (2) An applicant may ~~shall be entitled to~~ take the
18 examinations required in this section to practice dentistry in
19 this state if the applicant:

20 (a) Is 18 years of age or older.

21 (b) Is a graduate of, or a second-semester senior
22 enrolled in, a dental school accredited by the Commission on
23 Accreditation of the American Dental Association or its
24 successor agency, if any, or any other nationally recognized
25 accrediting agency. Before a second-semester senior dental
26 student may take the examination, the board must adopt rules
27 to ensure that:

28 1. The student is enrolled as a second-semester senior
29 dental student at a dental school accredited by the Commission
30 on Accreditation of the American Dental Association or its
31 successor agency;

1 2. The student has successfully completed all the
2 coursework necessary to prepare him or her to perform all
3 clinical and didactic procedures required to pass the
4 examination; and

5 3. The student's academic record does not include any
6 evidence suggesting that the student poses an unreasonable
7 risk to any live patients that are required for the clinical
8 examination. In order to protect the health and safety of the
9 residents of this state, the board may request additional
10 information and documents pertaining to the candidate's mental
11 and physical health so as to fully assess the candidate's
12 fitness to engage in exercises involving a live patient.

13 (c) Has successfully completed the National Board of
14 Dental Examiners dental examination within 10 years before ~~of~~
15 the date of application.

16 Section 2. Section 466.0065, Florida Statutes, is
17 created to read:

18 466.0065 Regional licensure examinations.--

19 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that schools
20 of dentistry be allowed to offer regional licensure
21 examinations to second-semester senior dental students for the
22 sole purpose of facilitating the student's licensing in other
23 jurisdictions. This section does not allow a person to be
24 licensed as a dentist in this state without taking the
25 examination as set forth in s. 466.006 nor does this section
26 mean that regional examinations administered under this
27 section may be substituted for complying with testing
28 requirements under s. 466.006.

29 (2) Each school of dentistry in this state which is
30 accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American
31 Dental Association or its successor agency may, upon written

1 approval by the Board of Dentistry, offer regional licensure
2 examinations only to second-semester senior dental students.

3 The following conditions must be met before the Board of
4 Dentistry may approve the request:

5 (a) The examining body must be a member of the
6 American Association of Dental Examiners.

7 (b) The student must have successfully completed parts
8 I and II of the National Board of Dental Examiners
9 examination within 2 years before taking the regional
10 examination.

11 (c) The student must possess medical malpractice
12 insurance in amounts that the board determines to be
13 sufficient to cover any reasonably foreseeable incident of harm
14 to a patient during the clinical portion of the examination.

15 (d) The examination must be proctored by dentists
16 licensed in this state who are approved by the board. The
17 board shall approve as proctors only those dentists licensed
18 in this state who have completed a mandatory standardization
19 exercise before each practical or clinical examination and who
20 have been found by the board to have substantially adhered to
21 the standard of grading established for that exercise.

22 (e) Adequate arrangements as specified by the board
23 must be made, when necessary, for patients who require
24 followup care as a result of procedures performed during the
25 clinical portion of the examination.

26 (f) The board chairman or the chairman's designee must
27 be allowed to observe testing while it is in progress.

28 (g) Each student, upon applying to take the regional
29 examination, must receive written disclosure in at least
30 12-point boldface type which states: "This examination does
31 not meet the licensure requirements of chapter 466, Florida

1 Statutes, for licensure in the State of Florida. Persons
2 wishing to practice dentistry in Florida must pass the Florida
3 licensure examination. For more information on Florida's
4 licensure examination procedures, please contact the Florida
5 Board of Dentistry."

6 (h) The student must be enrolled as a second-semester
7 senior dental student at a school accredited by the Commission
8 on Accreditation of the American Dental Association or its
9 successor agency.

10 (i) The student must have completed all the coursework
11 necessary to prepare him or her to perform all clinical and
12 didactic procedures required to pass the examination.

13 (j) The student's academic record must not include any
14 evidence suggesting that the student poses an unreasonable
15 risk to any live patients who are required for the clinical
16 examination. In order to protect the health and safety of the
17 residents of this state, the board may request additional
18 information and documents pertaining to the candidate's mental
19 and physical health in order to fully assess the candidate's
20 fitness to engage in exercises involving a live patient.

21 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.

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24 SENATE SUMMARY

25 Allows second-semester senior dental students to take
26 regional licensure examinations under specified
27 conditions and only for the purpose of facilitating their
28 licensure in other jurisdictions, not for purposes of
29 Florida licensure. Requires preapproval by the Board of
30 Dentistry. Requires the board to adopt rules to ensure
31 that certain prerequisites have been fulfilled.