



HB 0657

2003

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to dental licensure examinations; amending
3 s. 466.006, F.S.; allowing certain dental students to take
4 the examinations required to practice dentistry in this
5 state under specified conditions; providing a prerequisite
6 to licensure of such students; creating s. 466.0065, F.S.;
7 allowing certain dental students to take regional
8 licensure examinations under specified conditions;
9 restricting the applicability of examination results to
10 licensing in other jurisdictions; requiring approval by
11 the Board of Dentistry and providing prerequisites to such
12 approval; providing an effective date.

13
14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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

18 466.006 Examination of dentists.--

19 (2) An applicant shall be entitled to take the
20 examinations required in this section to practice dentistry in
21 this state if the applicant:

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

23 (b)1. Is a graduate of a dental school accredited by the
24 Commission on Accreditation of the American Dental Association
25 or its successor agency, if any, or any other nationally
26 recognized accrediting agency; ~~or-~~

27 2. Is a dental student in the final year of such an
28 accredited school who has completed all the coursework necessary
29 to prepare him or her to perform the clinical and diagnostic
30 procedures required to pass the examinations. With respect to a



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31 dental student in his or her final year of dental school, a
32 passing score on the examinations is valid for 180 days after
33 the date the examinations were completed. A dental school
34 student who takes the licensure examinations during his or her
35 final year of an approved dental school must have graduated
36 before being certified for licensure pursuant to s. 466.011.

37 (c) Has successfully completed the National Board of
38 Dental Examiners dental examination within 10 years before ~~of~~
39 the date of application.

40 Section 2. Section 466.0065, Florida Statutes, is created
41 to read:

42 466.0065 Regional licensure examinations.--

43 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that schools of
44 dentistry be allowed to offer regional licensure examinations to
45 dental students who are in the final year of an approved dental
46 school for the sole purpose of facilitating the student's
47 licensing in other jurisdictions. This section does not allow a
48 person to be licensed as a dentist in this state without taking
49 the examinations as set forth in s. 466.006, nor does this
50 section mean that regional examinations administered under this
51 section may be substituted for complying with testing
52 requirements under s. 466.006.

53 (2) Each school of dentistry in this state which is
54 accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American
55 Dental Association or its successor agency may, upon written
56 approval by the Board of Dentistry, offer regional licensure
57 examinations only to dental students in the final year of an
58 approved dental school, if the board has determined that the
59 dental school hosting the examination will comply with the
60 following conditions:



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

63 (b) The student must have successfully completed parts I
64 and II of the National Board of Dental Examiners examination
65 within 2 years before taking the regional examination.

66 (c) The student must possess medical malpractice insurance
67 in amounts that the board determines to be sufficient to cover
68 any reasonably foreseeable incident of harm to a patient during
69 the clinical portion of the regional examination.

70 (d) The regional examination must be monitored by dentists
71 licensed in this state who are approved by the board and who
72 have completed a mandatory standardization exercise before each
73 practical or clinical portion of the examination.

74 (e) Adequate arrangements must be made, when necessary,
75 for patients who require followup care as a result of procedures
76 performed during the clinical portion of the regional
77 examination.

78 (f) The board chair or the chair's designee must be
79 allowed to observe testing while it is in progress.

80 (g) Each student, upon applying to take the regional
81 examination, must receive written disclosure in at least 12-
82 point boldface type which states: "This examination does not
83 meet the licensure requirements of chapter 466, Florida
84 Statutes, for licensure in the State of Florida. Persons wishing
85 to practice dentistry in Florida must pass the Florida licensure
86 examinations. For more information on Florida's licensure
87 examination procedures, please contact the Florida Board of
88 Dentistry."

89 (h) The student must be enrolled as a dental student in
90 his or her final year of an approved dental school that is



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91 accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American
92 Dental Association or its successor agency.

93 (i) The student must have completed all the coursework
94 necessary to prepare him or her to perform all clinical and
95 diagnostic procedures required to pass the regional examination.

96 (j) The student's academic record must not include any
97 evidence suggesting that the student poses an unreasonable risk
98 to any live patients who are required for the clinical portion
99 of the regional examination. In order to protect the health and
100 safety of the residents of this state, the board may request
101 additional information and documents pertaining to the
102 candidate's mental and physical health in order to fully assess
103 the candidate's fitness to engage in exercises involving a live
104 patient.

105 (3) A student who takes a regional examination pursuant to
106 this section does not have standing to assert that a state
107 agency has taken action for which a hearing may be sought under
108 ss. 120.569 and 120.57.

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