



CHAMBER ACTION

The Committee on Health Care recommends the following:

Committee Substitute

Remove the entire bill and insert:

A bill to be entitled

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

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

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

466.006 Examination of dentists.--



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28 (2) An applicant shall be entitled to take the
29 examinations required in this section to practice dentistry in
30 this state if the applicant:

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

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

36 2. Is a dental student in the final year of such an
37 accredited school who has completed all the coursework necessary
38 to prepare him or her to perform the clinical and diagnostic
39 procedures required to pass the examinations. With respect to a
40 dental student in his or her final year of dental school, a
41 passing score on the examinations is valid for 180 days after
42 the date the examinations were completed. A dental school
43 student who takes the licensure examinations during his or her
44 final year of an approved dental school must have graduated
45 before being certified for licensure pursuant to s. 466.011.

46 (c) Has successfully completed the National Board of
47 Dental Examiners dental examination within 10 years before ~~of~~
48 the date of application.

49 Section 2. Section 466.0065, Florida Statutes, is created
50 to read:

51 466.0065 Regional licensure examinations.--

52 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that schools of
53 dentistry be allowed to offer regional licensure examinations to
54 dental students who are in the final year of an approved dental
55 school for the sole purpose of facilitating the student's



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56 licensing in other jurisdictions. This section does not allow a
57 person to be licensed as a dentist in this state without taking
58 the examinations as set forth in s. 466.006, nor does this
59 section mean that regional examinations administered under this
60 section may be substituted for complying with testing
61 requirements under s. 466.006.

62 (2) Each school of dentistry in this state which is
63 accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American
64 Dental Association or its successor agency may, upon written
65 approval by the Board of Dentistry, offer regional licensure
66 examinations only to dental students in the final year of an
67 approved dental school, if the board has approved the hosting
68 school's submitted written plan to comply with the following
69 conditions:

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

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

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

79 (d) At least one of the examination monitors must be a
80 Florida-licensed dentist who has completed all necessary
81 standardization exercises required by the regional examination
82 body.



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83 (e) Adequate arrangements must be made, when necessary,
84 for patients who require followup care as a result of procedures
85 performed during the clinical portion of the regional
86 examination.

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

89 (g) Each student, upon applying to take the regional
90 examination, must receive written disclosure in at least 12-
91 point boldface type which states: "This examination does not
92 meet the licensure requirements of chapter 466, Florida
93 Statutes, for licensure in the State of Florida. Persons wishing
94 to practice dentistry in Florida must pass the Florida licensure
95 examinations. For more information on Florida's licensure
96 examination procedures, please contact the Florida Board of
97 Dentistry."

98 (h) The student must be enrolled as a dental student in
99 his or her final year of an approved dental school that is
100 accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American
101 Dental Association or its successor agency.

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

105 (j) The student's academic record must not include any
106 evidence suggesting that the student poses an unreasonable risk
107 to any live patients who are required for the clinical portion
108 of the regional examination. In order to protect the health and
109 safety of the residents of this state, the board may request
110 additional information and documents pertaining to the



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111 candidate's mental and physical health in order to fully assess
112 the candidate's fitness to engage in exercises involving a live
113 patient.

114 (3) Neither a student who takes the examination pursuant
115 to this section, nor a dental school submitting a plan pursuant
116 to this section, nor a regional examination body which a dental
117 school proposed to host pursuant to this section has standing to
118 assert that a state agency has taken action for which a hearing
119 may be sought under ss. 120.569 and 120.57.

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