

CHAMBER ACTION

1 The Committee on Appropriations recommends the following:

2  
3 **Committee Substitute**

4 Remove the entire bill and insert:

5 A bill to be entitled

6 An act relating to dental licensure; amending s. 466.006,  
7 F.S.; allowing certain dental students to take the  
8 examinations required to practice dentistry in this state  
9 under specified conditions; providing a prerequisite to  
10 licensure of such students; creating s. 466.0065, F.S.;  
11 allowing certain dental students to take regional  
12 licensure examinations under specified conditions;  
13 restricting the applicability of examination results to  
14 licensing in other jurisdictions; requiring approval by  
15 the Board of Dentistry and providing prerequisites to such  
16 approval; denying certain persons and entities standing to  
17 assert right to administrative hearing proceedings;  
18 providing an effective date.

19  
20 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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

24 | 466.006 Examination of dentists.--

25 | (2) An applicant shall be entitled to take the  
26 | examinations required in this section to practice dentistry in  
27 | this state if the applicant:

28 | (a) Is 18 years of age or older.

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

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

44 | (c) Has successfully completed the National Board of  
45 | Dental Examiners dental examination within 10 years of the date  
46 | of application.

47 | Section 2. Section 466.0065, Florida Statutes, is created  
48 | to read:

49 | 466.0065 Regional licensure examinations.--

50 | (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that schools of  
51 | dentistry be allowed to offer regional licensure examinations to

52 dental students who are in the final year of a program at an  
53 approved dental school for the sole purpose of facilitating the  
54 student's licensing in other jurisdictions. This section does  
55 not allow a person to be licensed as a dentist in this state  
56 without taking the examinations as set forth in s. 466.006, nor  
57 does this section mean that regional examinations administered  
58 under this section may be substituted for complying with testing  
59 requirements under s. 466.006.

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

68 (a) A member of the regional examination body's board of  
69 directors or equivalent thereof must be a member of the American  
70 Association of Dental Examiners.

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

74 (c) The student must possess medical malpractice insurance  
75 in amounts not less than the amounts required to take the  
76 Florida licensure examinations.

77 (d) At least one of the examination monitors must be a  
78 dentist licensed in this state who has completed all necessary  
79 standardization exercises required by the regional examination

80 body. Recruitment of examination monitors is the responsibility  
 81 of the regional examination body.

82 (e) Adequate arrangements, as defined by the regional  
 83 examination body and as otherwise required by law, must be made,  
 84 when necessary, for patients who require followup care as a  
 85 result of procedures performed during the clinical portion of  
 86 the regional examination. The regional examination body must  
 87 inform patients in writing of their right to followup care in  
 88 advance of any procedures performed by a student.

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

91 (g) Each student, upon being deemed eligible by the dental  
 92 school to apply to the regional examination body to take the  
 93 regional examination, must receive written disclosure in at  
 94 least 12-point boldface type that states: "This examination does  
 95 not meet the licensure requirements of chapter 466, Florida  
 96 Statutes, for licensure in the State of Florida. Persons wishing  
 97 to practice dentistry in Florida must pass the Florida licensure  
 98 examinations."

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

103 (i) The student must have completed all coursework deemed  
 104 necessary by the dental school to prepare the student to perform  
 105 all clinical and diagnostic procedures required to pass the  
 106 regional examination.

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107        (j) The student's academic record must not include any  
108 evidence suggesting that the student poses an unreasonable risk  
109 to any live patients who are required for the clinical portion  
110 of the regional examination. In order to protect the health and  
111 safety of the public, the dental school may request additional  
112 information and documents pertaining to the candidate's mental  
113 and physical health in order to fully assess the candidate's  
114 fitness to engage in exercises involving a live patient.

115        (3) A student who takes the examination pursuant to this  
116 section, a dental school that submits a plan pursuant to this  
117 section, or a regional examination body that a dental school  
118 proposes to host under this section does not have standing to  
119 assert that a state agency has taken action for which a hearing  
120 may be sought under ss. 120.569 and 120.57.

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