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A bill to be entitled
 An act relating to dental hygienists; amending s. 466.004,
 F.S.; revising provisions relating to members and meetings
 of the Council on Dental Hygiene; providing procedures for
 the council and the Board of Dentistry to consider rule
 and policy recommendations of the council; amending s.
 466.023, F.S.; expanding the scope and area of practice of
 dental hygienists to include practice with physicians;
 expanding the scope and area of practice of dental
 hygienists to include screening and referral of patients
 for comprehensive dental examinations; providing an
 effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
 466.004, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

466.004 Board of Dentistry.--

(2) To advise the board, it is the intent of the
 Legislature that councils be appointed as specified in
 paragraphs (a), (b), and (c). The department shall provide
 administrative support to the councils and shall provide public
 notice of meetings and agenda of the councils. Councils shall
 include at least one board member who shall chair the council
 and shall include nonboard members. All council members shall be
 appointed by the board chair. Council members shall be appointed
 for 4-year terms, and all members shall be eligible for
 reimbursement of expenses in the manner of board members.

29 (a) A Council on Dental Hygiene shall be appointed by the
30 board chair and shall include one dental hygienist member of the
31 board, who shall chair the council, one dental member of the
32 board, and three dental hygienists recommended by the Florida
33 Dental Hygiene Association who are actively engaged in the
34 practice of dental hygiene in this state. The council shall meet
35 at least three times each calendar year. Additional meetings may
36 be called at the request of the board chair, a majority of the
37 members of the board or council, or the council chair. The
38 council is charged with the responsibility of and shall meet for
39 the purpose of developing rules and policies for recommendation
40 to the board, which the board shall consider, on matters
41 pertaining to that part of dentistry consisting of educational,
42 preventive, or therapeutic dental hygiene services; dental
43 hygiene licensure, discipline, or regulation; and dental hygiene
44 education. Rule and policy recommendations of the council shall
45 be considered by the board immediately following the submission
46 of the proposed rule or policy in the same manner as it
47 considers rule and policy recommendations from designated
48 subcommittees of the board. Any rule or policy proposed by the
49 board pertaining to the specified part of dentistry defined by
50 this paragraph shall be referred to the council for a
51 recommendation prior to final action by the board. If the board
52 rejects the council's proposed rule or policy, the board must
53 specify its objection to the council with particularity and
54 include any recommendation it may
55 have for the modification of the proposed rules or policy.

56 Section 2. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 466.023,
 57 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

58 466.023 Dental hygienists; scope and area of practice.--

59 (2) Dental hygienists may perform their duties:

60 (a) In the office of a licensed dentist or physician;

61 (b) In public health programs and institutions of the
 62 Department of Children and Family Services, Department of
 63 Health, and Department of Juvenile Justice under the general
 64 supervision of a licensed dentist or physician; or

65 (c) Upon a patient of record of a dentist or physician who
 66 has issued a prescription for the services of a dental
 67 hygienist, which prescription shall be valid for 2 years unless
 68 a shorter length of time is designated by the dentist or
 69 physician, in:

- 70 1. Licensed public and private health facilities.;
- 71 2. Other public institutions of the state and federal
 72 government.;
- 73 3. Public and private educational institutions.;
- 74 4. The home of a nonambulatory patient.;~~and~~
- 75 5. Other places in accordance with the rules of the board.

76
 77 However, the dentist or physician issuing such prescription
 78 shall remain responsible for the care of such patient. As used
 79 in this subsection, "patient of record" means a patient upon
 80 whom a dentist or physician has taken a complete medical
 81 history, completed a clinical examination, recorded any
 82 pathological conditions, and prepared a treatment plan.

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83 (3) Dental hygienists may, without supervision, provide
84 educational programs, faculty or staff training programs, and
85 authorized fluoride rinse programs; screening and referral of
86 patients for comprehensive dental examinations at those
87 facilities, institutions, and places listed under paragraph
88 (2)(c); and other services which do not involve diagnosis or
89 treatment of dental conditions and which services are approved
90 by rule of the board. Screening results are not a diagnosis for
91 purposes of this chapter and shall be provided to patients
92 assessed or to the parents or guardians of minor patients for a
93 dental referral for diagnosis.

94 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.