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A bill to be entitled
 An act relating to dentistry; amending s. 466.004, F.S.;
 providing Board of Dentistry membership term limits;
 amending s. 466.006, F.S.; clarifying the requirements to
 be licensed as a dentist; amending s. 466.007, F.S.;
 revising postsecondary education requirements to sit for
 the dental hygiene examination; amending s. 466.0135,
 F.S.; authorizing a continuing education course in
 practice management; amending s. 466.021, F.S.; increasing
 storage requirements for work orders; amending s. 466.025,
 F.S.; clarifying that temporary certificates to practice
 in state and county government facilities be issued only
 to graduates of accredited dental schools; providing an
 effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 466.004, Florida
 Statutes, is amended to read:

466.004 Board of Dentistry.--

(1) To carry out the provisions of this chapter, there is
 created within the department the Board of Dentistry consisting
 of 11 members who shall be appointed by the Governor and subject
 to confirmation by the Senate. Seven members of the board must
 be licensed dentists actively engaged in the clinical practice
 of dentistry in this state; two members must be licensed dental
 hygienists actively engaged in the practice of dental hygiene in
 this state; and the remaining two members must be laypersons who

29 are not, and have never been, dentists, dental hygienists, or
30 members of any closely related profession or occupation. Each
31 member of the board who is a licensed dentist must have been
32 actively engaged in the practice of dentistry primarily as a
33 clinical practitioner for at least 5 years immediately preceding
34 the date of her or his appointment to the board and must remain
35 primarily in clinical practice during all subsequent periods of
36 appointment to the board. Each member of the board who is
37 connected in any way with any dental college or community
38 college must be in compliance with s. 456.007. At least one
39 member of the board must be 60 years of age or older. Members
40 shall be appointed for 4-year terms; however, no member may
41 serve more than 10 cumulative years.

42 Section 2. Subsection (4) of section 466.006, Florida
43 Statutes, is amended to read:

44 466.006 Examination of dentists.--

45 (4) Notwithstanding s. 456.017, to be licensed as a
46 dentist in this state, an applicant must successfully complete
47 the following:

48 (a) A written examination on the laws and rules of the
49 state regulating the practice of dentistry;

50 (b)1. A practical or clinical examination, which shall be
51 administered and graded by dentists licensed in this state and
52 employed by the department for just such purpose. The practical
53 examination shall include:

54 a. Two restorations, and the board by rule shall determine
55 the class of such restorations and whether they shall be

56 performed on mannequins, live patients, or both. At least one
57 restoration shall be on a live patient;

58 b. A demonstration of periodontal skills on a live
59 patient;

60 c. A demonstration of prosthetics and restorative skills
61 in complete and partial dentures and crowns and bridges and the
62 utilization of practical methods of evaluation, specifically
63 including the evaluation by the candidate of completed
64 laboratory products such as, but not limited to, crowns and
65 inlays filled to prepared model teeth;

66 d. A demonstration of restorative skills on a mannequin
67 which requires the candidate to complete procedures performed in
68 preparation for a cast restoration; and

69 e. A demonstration of endodontic skills.

70 2. The department shall consult with the board in planning
71 the times, places, physical facilities, training of personnel,
72 and other arrangements concerning the administration of the
73 examination. The board or a duly designated committee thereof
74 shall approve the final plans for the administration of the
75 examination.

76 3. If the applicant fails to pass the clinical examination
77 in three attempts, the applicant shall not be eligible for
78 reexamination unless she or he completes additional educational
79 requirements established by the board; and

80 (c) A diagnostic skills examination demonstrating ability
81 to diagnose conditions within the human oral cavity and its
82 adjacent tissues and structures from photographs, slides,
83 radiographs, or models pursuant to rules of the board. If an

84 applicant fails to pass the diagnostic skills examination in
 85 three attempts, the applicant shall not be eligible for
 86 reexamination unless she or he completes additional educational
 87 requirements established by the board.

88 (d) The board may by rule provide for additional
 89 procedures which are to be tested, provided such procedures
 90 shall be common to the practice of general dentistry. The board
 91 by rule shall determine the passing grade for each procedure and
 92 the acceptable variation for examiners. No such rule shall apply
 93 retroactively.

94
 95 The department shall require a mandatory standardization
 96 exercise for all examiners prior to each practical or clinical
 97 examination and shall retain for employment only those dentists
 98 who have substantially adhered to the standard of grading
 99 established at such exercise.

100 Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section
 101 466.007, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

102 466.007 Examination of dental hygienists.--

103 (3) A graduate of a dental college or school shall be
 104 entitled to take the examinations required in this section to
 105 practice dental hygiene in this state if, in addition to the
 106 requirements specified in subsection (2), the graduate meets the
 107 following requirements:

108 (a) Submits the following credentials for review by the
 109 board:

110 1. Transcripts totaling ~~of predental education and dental~~
 111 ~~education totaling 5 academic years of postsecondary education,~~

112 ~~including~~ 4 academic years of postsecondary dental education;
 113 and

114 2. A dental school diploma which is comparable to a D.D.S.
 115 or D.M.D.

116
 117 Such credentials shall be submitted in a manner provided by rule
 118 of the board. The board shall approve those credentials which
 119 comply with this paragraph and with rules of the board adopted
 120 under ~~pursuant to~~ this paragraph. The provisions of this
 121 paragraph notwithstanding, an applicant of a foreign dental
 122 college or school not accredited in accordance with s.
 123 466.006(2)(b) who cannot produce the credentials required by
 124 this paragraph, as a result of political or other conditions in
 125 the country in which the applicant received his or her
 126 education, may seek the board's approval of his or her
 127 educational background by submitting, in lieu of the credentials
 128 required in this paragraph, such other reasonable and reliable
 129 evidence as may be set forth by board rule. The board shall not
 130 accept such other evidence until it has made a reasonable
 131 attempt to obtain the credentials required by this paragraph
 132 from the educational institutions the applicant is alleged to
 133 have attended, unless the board is otherwise satisfied that such
 134 credentials cannot be obtained.

135 Section 4. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
 136 466.0135, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

137 466.0135 Continuing education; dentists.--

138 (1) In addition to the other requirements for renewal set
 139 out in this chapter, each licensed dentist shall be required to

140 complete biennially not less than 30 hours of continuing
 141 professional education in dental subjects. Programs of
 142 continuing education shall be programs of learning that
 143 contribute directly to the dental education of the dentist and
 144 may include, but shall not be limited to, attendance at
 145 lectures, study clubs, college postgraduate courses, or
 146 scientific sessions of conventions; and research, graduate
 147 study, teaching, or service as a clinician. Programs of
 148 continuing education shall be acceptable when adhering to the
 149 following general guidelines:

150 (b) Continuing education courses shall address one or more
 151 of the following areas of professional development, including,
 152 but not limited to:

153 1. Basic medical and scientific subjects, including, but
 154 not limited to, biology, physiology, pathology, biochemistry,
 155 and pharmacology;

156 2. Clinical and technological subjects, including, but not
 157 limited to, clinical techniques and procedures, materials, and
 158 equipment; and

159 3. Subjects pertinent to oral health and safety.

160
 161 Additionally, the board may authorize up to 3 credit hours
 162 biennially for a course on practice management that includes,
 163 but is not limited to, principles of ethical practice
 164 management, provider substance abuse, effective communications
 165 with patients, time management, and burnout prevention.

166 Section 5. Section 466.021, Florida Statutes, is amended
 167 to read:

168 466.021 Employment of unlicensed persons by dentist;
169 penalty.--Every duly licensed dentist who uses the services of
170 any unlicensed person for the purpose of constructing, altering,
171 repairing, or duplicating any denture, partial denture, bridge
172 splint, or orthodontic or prosthetic appliance shall be required
173 to furnish such unlicensed person with a written work order in
174 such form as prescribed by rule of the board. This form shall be
175 dated and signed by such dentist and shall include the patient's
176 name or number with sufficient descriptive information to
177 clearly identify the case for each separate and individual piece
178 of work. A copy of such work order shall be retained in a
179 ~~permanent~~ file in the dentist's office for a period of 4 2
180 years, and the original work order shall be retained in a
181 ~~permanent~~ file for a period of 4 2 years by such unlicensed
182 person in her or his place of business. Such ~~permanent~~ file of
183 work orders to be kept by such dentist or by such unlicensed
184 person shall be open to inspection at any reasonable time by the
185 department or its duly constituted agent. Failure of the dentist
186 to keep such ~~permanent~~ records of such work orders shall subject
187 the dentist to suspension or revocation of her or his license to
188 practice dentistry. Failure of such unlicensed person to have in
189 her or his possession a work order as required by this section
190 shall be admissible evidence of a violation of this chapter and
191 shall constitute a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable
192 as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. Nothing in this section
193 shall preclude a registered dental laboratory from working for
194 another registered dental laboratory, provided that such work is
195 performed pursuant to written authorization, in a form to be

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196 prescribed by rule of the board, which evidences that the
197 originating laboratory has obtained a valid work order and which
198 sets forth the work to be performed. Furthermore, ~~nothing in~~
199 this section does not ~~shall~~ preclude a registered laboratory
200 from providing its services to dentists licensed and practicing
201 in another state, provided that such work is requested or
202 otherwise authorized in written form which clearly identifies
203 the name and address of the requesting dentist and which sets
204 forth the work to be performed.

205 Section 6. Subsection (2) of section 466.025, Florida
206 Statutes, is amended to read:

207 466.025 Permitting of dental interns serving at state
208 institutions; certification of dentists practicing at government
209 facilities; permitting of nonprofit corporations.--

210 (2) The department shall have the authority to issue
211 temporary certificates to graduates of accredited dental schools
212 ~~dentists~~ to practice in state and county government facilities,
213 working under the general supervision of licensed dentists of
214 this state in the state or county facility, provided such
215 certificates shall be issued only to graduates of schools
216 approved by the board and further subject to cancellation for
217 just cause. A certificate issued under this section is valid
218 only for such time as the dentist remains employed by a state or
219 county government facility.

220 Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.