

By the Committee on Health Policy; and Senator Albritton

588-01991-22

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to licensure examinations for dental  
3 practitioners; amending s. 466.006, F.S.; revising  
4 licensure examination requirements for dentists to  
5 require applicants to demonstrate certain clinical  
6 skills on a manikin rather than a live patient;  
7 amending s. 466.0065, F.S.; revising requirements for  
8 regional licensure examinations offered by dental  
9 schools to dental students; amending s. 466.007, F.S.;  
10 revising licensure examination requirements for dental  
11 hygienists to require applicants to demonstrate  
12 certain clinical skills on a manikin rather than a  
13 live patient; repealing s. 466.0075, F.S.; deleting a  
14 requirement that applicants for dental practitioner  
15 licensure examinations maintain medical malpractice  
16 insurance to cover any incident of harm to a patient  
17 during the clinical examination; providing an  
18 effective date.

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

21  
22 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of section  
23 466.006, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

24 466.006 Examination of dentists.—

25 (5) (a) The practical examination required under subsection  
26 (4) is ~~shall be~~ the American Dental Licensing Examination  
27 developed by the American Board of Dental Examiners, Inc., or  
28 its successor entity, if any, provided the board finds that the  
29 successor entity's clinical examination complies with the

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30 provisions of this section, and must ~~shall~~ include, at a  
31 minimum:

32 1. A comprehensive diagnostic skills examination covering  
33 the full scope of dentistry and an examination on applied  
34 clinical diagnosis and treatment planning in dentistry for  
35 dental candidates;

36 2. Two restorations on a manikin that has typodont teeth  
37 with simulated caries as approved by the Commission on Dental  
38 Competency Assessments ~~live patient or patients~~. The board by  
39 rule shall determine the class of such restorations;

40 3. A demonstration of periodontal skills on a manikin that  
41 has typodont teeth with simulated calculus as approved by the  
42 Commission on Dental Competency Assessments ~~live patient~~;

43 4. A demonstration of prosthetics and restorative skills in  
44 complete and partial dentures and crowns and bridges and the  
45 utilization of practical methods of evaluation, specifically  
46 including the evaluation by the candidate of completed  
47 laboratory products such as, but not limited to, crowns and  
48 inlays filled to prepared model teeth;

49 5. A demonstration of restorative skills on a manikin  
50 ~~mannequin~~ which requires the candidate to complete procedures  
51 performed in preparation for a cast restoration;

52 6. A demonstration of endodontic skills; and

53 7. A diagnostic skills examination demonstrating ability to  
54 diagnose conditions within the human oral cavity and its  
55 adjacent tissues and structures from photographs, slides,  
56 radiographs, or models pursuant to rules of the board. If an  
57 applicant fails to pass the diagnostic skills examination in  
58 three attempts, the applicant is ~~shall~~ not ~~be~~ eligible for

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59 reexamination unless she or he completes additional educational  
60 requirements established by the board.

61  
62 The department shall require a mandatory standardization  
63 exercise for all examiners prior to each practical or clinical  
64 examination and shall retain for employment only those dentists  
65 who have substantially adhered to the standard of grading  
66 established at such exercise.

67 Section 2. Paragraphs (c), (e), and (j) of subsection (2)  
68 of section 466.0065, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

69 466.0065 Regional licensure examinations.-

70 (2) Each school of dentistry in this state which is  
71 accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American  
72 Dental Association or its successor agency may, upon written  
73 approval by the Board of Dentistry, offer regional licensure  
74 examinations only to dental students in the final year of a  
75 program at an approved dental school, if the board has approved  
76 the hosting school's written plan to comply with the following  
77 conditions:

78 ~~(c) The student must possess medical malpractice insurance~~  
79 ~~in amounts not less than the amounts required to take the~~  
80 ~~Florida licensure examinations.~~

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

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88       ~~(j) The student's academic record must not include any~~  
89 ~~evidence suggesting that the student poses an unreasonable risk~~  
90 ~~to any live patients who are required for the clinical portion~~  
91 ~~of the regional examination. In order to protect the health and~~  
92 ~~safety of the public, the dental school may request additional~~  
93 ~~information and documents pertaining to the candidate's mental~~  
94 ~~and physical health in order to fully assess the candidate's~~  
95 ~~fitness to engage in exercises involving a live patient.~~

96       Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section  
97 466.007, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

98       466.007 Examination of dental hygienists.—

99       (4) Effective July 1, 2012, to be licensed as a dental  
100 hygienist in this state, an applicant must successfully complete  
101 the following:

102       (b) A practical or clinical examination approved by the  
103 board. The examination shall be the Dental Hygiene Examination  
104 produced by the American Board of Dental Examiners, Inc., (ADEX)  
105 or its successor entity, if any, if the board finds that the  
106 successor entity's clinical examination meets or exceeds the  
107 provisions of this section. The board shall approve the ADEX  
108 Dental Hygiene Examination if the board has attained and  
109 continues to maintain representation on the ADEX House of  
110 Representatives, the ADEX Dental Hygiene Examination Development  
111 Committee, and such other ADEX Dental Hygiene committees as the  
112 board deems appropriate through rulemaking to ensure that the  
113 standards established in this section are maintained  
114 organizationally. The ADEX Dental Hygiene Examination or the  
115 examination produced by its successor entity is a comprehensive  
116 examination in which an applicant must demonstrate skills within

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117 the dental hygiene scope of practice on a manikin that has  
118 typodont teeth with simulated caries and calculus as approved by  
119 the Commission on Dental Competency Assessments ~~live-patient~~ and  
120 any other components that the board deems necessary for the  
121 applicant to successfully demonstrate competency for the purpose  
122 of licensure.

123 Section 4. Section 466.0075, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

124 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.