

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act To Allow Qualified, Licensed Denturists To Practice to the Level of Their Educational Training'

Amend the bill in section 3 in paragraph B in the next to the last line (page 1, line 16 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "dentures" the following: ', without performing alteration to natural or reconstructed tooth structure. Upon the receipt of a written statement of oral condition or oral health certificate as determined by the board by a licensed dentist, a denturist may complete clinical procedures related to the fabrication of a removable tooth-borne partial denture, including cast frameworks'

Amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

'Sec. 4. 32 MRSA §1100-D, sub-§2-A, ¶B, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 590, §6, is amended to read:

B. A person is eligible to take the examination if that person:

(1) Is a high school graduate or has obtained high school equivalency; and

(2) Has a diploma from a board-approved denturism postsecondary institution or, until September 30, 2009, has completed an equivalent denturist educational program approved by the board.

Sec. 5. 32 MRSA §1100-E, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1995, c. 590, §7, is further amended to read:

2. License issued. The board shall issue a license for the practice in this State to each person who has passed an examination under section 1100-D. This license authorizes the licensee to practice as a denturist in the State until the expiration date that appears on the license. Beginning October 1, 2009, the board shall require, in addition to passage of the examination, all applicants for licensure to have a diploma and be graduates of a board-approved denturism postsecondary institution. Denturists licensed in this State prior to October 1, 2009 that do not have a diploma from a board-approved denturism postsecondary institution shall successfully complete an upgraded curriculum approved by the board before a license may be issued or renewed.

Sec. 6. Board of Dental Examiners to adopt rules; deadline for completion of upgraded curriculum. The Board of Dental Examiners shall adopt rules, which are routine technical rules pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A, no later than January 1, 2010 regarding the upgraded curriculum described in Title 32, section 1100-E, subsection 2. Denturists licensed in this State prior to October 1, 2009 that do not have a diploma from a board-approved denturism postsecondary institution shall successfully complete the upgraded curriculum no later than 2 years after the Board of Dental Examiners adopts rules pursuant to this section.'

SUMMARY

This amendment clarifies the definition of "practice of denturism" to include the fitting of a denture to an edentulous or partially edentulous arch or arches, including the making, producing, reproducing, constructing, finishing, supplying, altering and repairing of dentures, without performing alteration to natural or reconstructed tooth structure. It allows a denturist, upon the receipt of a written statement of oral condition by a licensed dentist, to complete clinical procedures related to the fabrication of a removable tooth-borne partial denture, including cast frameworks. It also amends the requirements for licensure as a denturist to require that, beginning October 1, 2009, in addition to the examination, all applicants must be graduates of a board-approved denturism postsecondary institution. Denturists licensed in this State prior to October 1, 2009 that do not have a diploma from a board-approved denturism postsecondary institution are required to successfully complete an upgraded curriculum approved by the board within 2 years before a license may be issued or renewed.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)