**An Act To Allow a Dentist To Administer Botulinum Toxin and Dermal Fillers**

**Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

**Whereas,** the sole purpose of the Board of Dental Practice is to protect the public health and welfare by ensuring that the public is served by competent and honest practitioners and by establishing minimum standards of proficiency; and

**Whereas,** former board rule Chapter 9: Complaints/Investigations/Unprofessional Conduct, Section II, paragraph U, which was repealed effective April 5, 2020, contained language restricting a dentist's scope of practice to administer botulinum toxins and dermal fillers to dental procedures; and

**Whereas,** substantive policy decisions such as expanding or restricting scopes of practice are appropriate for the legislative process, not an administrative rule-making process; and

**Whereas,** immediate enactment of this legislation is necessary to continue protecting the public by ensuring that authorization for a dentist to administer botulinum toxin and dermal fillers to a patient as part of a dental treatment plan is continued as part of a dentist's scope of practice; and

**Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

**Sec.** **1. 32 MRSA §18325, sub-§1, ¶O,** as amended by PL 2015, c. 488, §33, is further amended to read:

O. A violation of this chapter or a rule adopted by the board; ~~and~~

**Sec.** **2. 32 MRSA §18325, sub-§1, ¶P,** as enacted by PL 2015, c. 488, §34, is amended to read:

P. Failure to comply with the requirements of Title 22, section 7253~~.~~; and

**Sec.** **3. 32 MRSA §18325, sub-§1, ¶Q** is enacted to read:

Q. Administering botulinum toxins or dermal fillers to a patient when that administration is not supported by a diagnosed dental condition or is not part of a patient's dental treatment plan.

**Sec.** **4. 32 MRSA §18371, sub-§1, ¶M,** as enacted by PL 2015, c. 429, §21, is amended to read:

M. Prescribe drugs or medicine and administer local anesthesia, analgesia including nitrous oxide and oxygen inhalation and, with the appropriate permit issued by the board, administer sedation and general anesthesia necessary for proper dental treatment; ~~and~~

**Sec.** **5. 32 MRSA §18371, sub-§1, ¶N,** as enacted by PL 2015, c. 429, §21, is amended to read:

N. Take case histories and perform physical examinations to the extent the activities are necessary in the exercise of due care in conjunction with the provision of dental treatment or the administration of anesthesia. A dentist is not permitted to perform physical examinations within a hospital licensed by the Department of Health and Human Services unless this activity is permitted by the hospital~~.~~; and

**Sec.** **6. 32 MRSA §18371, sub-§1, ¶O** is enacted to read:

O. Administer botulinum toxins or dermal fillers to a patient with a diagnosed dental condition or when that administration is identified as part of a patient's dental treatment plan.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

**SUMMARY**

This bill authorizes within a dentist's scope of practice the use of botulinum toxins or dermal fillers when supported by a patient's diagnosed dental condition or as a part of a patient's dental treatment plan. It also adds additional grounds the Board of Dental Practice may consider when taking disciplinary action against a dentist to include administering botulinum toxins or dermal fillers to a patient for a nondental condition or treatment.

The bill places into statute the limitations on a dentist's administering botulinum toxins or dermal fillers that were in former Board of Dental Practice rule Chapter 9: Complaints/Investigations/Unprofessional Conduct, which was repealed and replaced on April 5, 2020.