

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE

S.P. 37 - L.D. 23

**An Act to Extend the Period of Time a Dentist May Operate the Practice of a  
Deceased or Incapacitated Dentist**

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

**Whereas,** Maine is experiencing a shortage of dentists; and

**Whereas,** this legislation extends the time by which the operations of a dental practice may continue after the death or incapacitation of a dentist; and

**Whereas,** this legislation must take effect prior to the 90-day period to provide additional time for dental practices to be sold after the death or incapacitation of a dentist; 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. 13 MRSA §732, sub-§5,** as amended by PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. C, §26 and affected by PL 2019, c. 417, Pt. B, §14, is further amended to read:

**5. Legal guardian or personal representative of deceased or incapacitated dentist.** For the purposes of this chapter, the legal guardian or personal representative of a dentist licensed under Title 32, chapter 143 may contract with another dentist to continue the operations of the practice of the deceased or incapacitated dentist for a period of up to 24 48 months after the death or incapacitation of the dentist or until the practice is sold, whichever occurs first. For purposes of this subsection, "personal representative" has the same meaning as in Title 18-C, section 1-201, subsection 40.

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