

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT to LD 1457, An Act To Improve Access to Dental Hygiene by  
Authorizing Dental Hygienists To Perform Dental Hygiene Diagnosis**

*changes to original bill are shown by strikethrough or in bold italics and highlighted in yellow*

Amend the bill as follows:

**Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §18302, sub-§6-A** is enacted to read:

**6-A. Dental hygiene diagnosis.** "Dental hygiene diagnosis" means the identification of an existing oral health problem that a dental hygienist is qualified and licensed to treat.

**Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §18374, sub-§1, ¶A**, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 429, §21, is ~~repealed~~ **amended to read:**

A. Administer ~~local anesthesia or~~ nitrous oxide analgesia, as long as the dental hygienist or faculty dental hygienist has authority to administer the relevant medication pursuant to section 18345, subsection 2, paragraph D or E;

**Sec. 3. 32 MRSA §18374, sub-§2, ¶TT**, as amended by PL 2017, c. 388, §19, is further amended to read:

TT. Smooth and polish amalgam restorations; ~~and~~

**Sec. 4. 32 MRSA §18374, sub-§2, ¶VV**, as amended by PL 2017, c. 388, §19, is further amended to read:

VV. Obtain impressions for study casts, athletic mouth guards, custom trays, bleaching trays, fluoride trays, opposing models, retainers and stents;

**Sec. 5. 32 MRSA §18374, sub-§2, ¶ZZ** is enacted to read:

ZZ. Perform dental hygiene diagnoses; and

**Sec. 6. 32 MRSA §18374, sub-§2, ¶AAA** is enacted to read:

AAA. Administer local anesthesia ~~or nitrous oxide analgesia~~, as long as the dental hygienist or faculty dental hygienist has authority to administer the relevant medication pursuant to section 18345, subsection 2, paragraph D or E.

**Sec. 7. 32 MRSA §18375, sub-§1, ¶P**, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 429, §21, is amended to read:

P. Expose and process radiographs, including but not limited to vertical and horizontal bitewing films, periapical films, panoramic images and full-mouth series, under protocols developed by the board as long as the independent practice dental hygienist has a written agreement with a licensed dentist that provides that the dentist is available to interpret all dental radiographs within 21 days from the date the radiograph is taken and that the dentist will sign a radiographic review and findings form; ~~and~~

**LD 1457**  
**Draft Proposed Amendment**  
**Proposed by Sponsor, Rep. Grohoski**

**Sec. 8. 32 MRSA §18375, sub-§1, ¶Q**, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 429, §21, is amended to read:

Q. Prescribe, dispense or administer anticavity toothpastes or topical gels with 1.1% or less sodium fluoride and oral rinses with 0.05%, 0.2%, 0.44% or 0.5% sodium fluoride, as well as chlorhexidine gluconate oral rinse. For the purposes of this paragraph, "topical" includes superficial and intraoral application; and

**Sec. 9. 32 MRSA §18375, sub-§1, ¶R** is enacted to read:

R. Perform dental hygiene diagnoses.

**Sec. 10. 32 MRSA §18376, sub-§1, ¶FF**, as amended by PL 2017, c. 388, §23, is further amended to read:

FF. Obtain impressions for and deliver athletic mouth guards and custom fluoride trays; ~~and~~

**Sec. 11. 32 MRSA §18376, sub-§1, ¶GG**, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 429, §21, is amended to read:

GG. Take intraoral photographs; and

**Sec. 12. 32 MRSA §18376, sub-§1, ¶HH** is enacted to read:

HH. Perform dental hygiene diagnoses.

#### SUMMARY

This amendment makes clear the sponsor's intent with regard to the authority for a dental hygienist to administer certain forms of anesthesia.

The amendment retains in current law the authority for a dental hygienist to administer nitrous oxide analgesia under the direct supervision of a dentist. The bill would have repealed that authority along with authority to administer local anesthesia.

The amendment provides authority for a dental hygienist to provide local anesthesia under the general supervision of a dentist.