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**Representatives White, McGregor, J., Setzer, Schaffer, Oelslager, Coley,
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Reidelbach, Smith, S., DeBose**

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A B I L L

To amend section 4715.39 of the Revised Code to allow 1
a dental assistant to apply pit and fissure 2
sealants under certain circumstances. 3

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 4715.39 of the Revised Code be 4
amended to read as follows: 5

Sec. 4715.39. (A) The state dental board may define the 6
duties that may be performed by dental assistants and other 7
individuals designated by the board as qualified personnel. If 8
defined, the duties shall be defined in rules adopted in 9
accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code. The rules may 10
include training and practice standards for dental assistants and 11
other qualified personnel. The standards may include examination 12
and issuance of a certificate. If the board issues a certificate, 13
the recipient shall display the certificate in a conspicuous 14
location in any office in which the recipient is employed to 15
perform the duties authorized by the certificate. 16

(B) A dental assistant may polish the clinical crowns of 17
teeth if all of the following requirements are met: 18

(1) The dental assistant's polishing activities are limited 19
to the use of a rubber cup attached to a slow-speed rotary dental 20
hand piece to remove soft deposits that build up over time on the 21
crowns of teeth. 22

(2) The polishing is performed only after a dentist has 23
evaluated the patient and any calculus detected on the teeth to be 24
polished has been removed by a dentist or dental hygienist. 25

(3) The dentist supervising the assistant supervises not more 26
than two dental assistants engaging in polishing activities at any 27
given time. 28

(4) The dental assistant is certified by the dental assisting 29
national board or the Ohio commission on dental assistant 30
certification. 31

(5) The dental assistant receives a certificate from the 32
board authorizing the assistant to engage in the polishing 33
activities. The board shall issue the certificate if the 34
individual has successfully completed training in the polishing of 35
clinical crowns through a program accredited by the commission on 36
dental accreditation or equivalent training approved by the board. 37
The training shall include courses in basic dental anatomy and 38
infection control, followed by a course in coronal polishing that 39
includes didactic, preclinical, and clinical training; any other 40
training required by the board; and a skills assessment that 41
includes successful completion of standardized testing. The board 42
shall adopt rules pursuant to division (A) of this section 43
establishing standards for approval of this training. 44

(C) A dental assistant may apply pit and fissure sealants if 45
all of the following requirements are met: 46

(1) A dentist evaluates the patient and designates the teeth 47
and surfaces that will benefit from the application of sealant on 48
the day the application is to be performed. 49

(2) The dental assistant is certified by the dental assisting national board or the Ohio commission on dental assistant certification. 50
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(3) The dental assistant has successfully completed a course in the application of sealants consisting of at least two hours of didactic instruction and six hours of clinical instruction through a program provided by an institution accredited by the American dental association commission on dental accreditation or a program provided by a sponsor of continuing education approved by the board. 53
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(4) The dentist supervising the assistant has observed the assistant successfully apply at least six sealants. 60
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(5) The dentist supervising the assistant checks and approves the application of all sealants placed by the assistant before the patient leaves the location where the sealant application procedure is performed. 62
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(D) Subject to this section and the applicable rules of the board, licensed dentists may assign to dental assistants and other qualified personnel dental procedures that do not require the professional competence or skill of the licensed dentist or dental hygienist as this section or the board by rule authorizes dental assistants and other qualified personnel to perform. The performance of dental procedures by dental assistants and other qualified personnel shall be under direct supervision and full responsibility of the licensed dentist. 66
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~~(D)~~(E) Nothing in this section shall be construed by rule of the state dental board or otherwise to do the following: 75
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(1) Authorize dental assistants or other qualified personnel to engage in the practice of dental hygiene as defined by sections 4715.22 and 4715.23 of the Revised Code or to perform the duties of a dental hygienist, including the removal of calcarious 77
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deposits, dental cement, or accretions on the crowns and roots of	81
teeth other than as authorized pursuant to this section;	82
(2) Authorize the assignment of any of the following:	83
(a) Diagnosis;	84
(b) Treatment planning and prescription, including	85
prescription for drugs and medicaments or authorization for	86
restorative, prosthodontic, or orthodontic appliances;	87
(c) Surgical procedures on hard or soft tissue of the oral	88
cavity, or any other intraoral procedure that contributes to or	89
results in an irremediable alteration of the oral anatomy;	90
(d) The making of final impressions from which casts are made	91
to construct any dental restoration.	92
(E) (F) No dentist shall assign any dental assistant or other	93
individual acting in the capacity of qualified personnel to	94
perform any dental procedure that the assistant or other	95
individual is not authorized by this section or by board rule to	96
perform. No dental assistant or other individual acting in the	97
capacity of qualified personnel shall perform any dental procedure	98
other than in accordance with this section and any applicable	99
board rule or any dental procedure that the assistant or other	100
individual is not authorized by this section or by board rule to	101
perform.	102
Section 2. That existing section 4715.39 of the Revised Code	103
is hereby repealed.	104