



Lisa Musielewicz

*Bill Analysis*  
*Legislative Service Commission*

## **H.B. 143**

126th General Assembly  
(As Introduced)

**Reps. Willamowski, White, Raussen, Combs, Fessler, Kearns, Martin, Peterson, Reidelbach, Schneider, Seaver, Webster, Widowfield, Barrett, Beatty, Harwood, C. Evans, McGregor, Seitz, Gilb, Hood, Flowers, Driehaus, Blasdel, Carmichael**

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### **BILL SUMMARY**

- Permits a dental hygienist who has completed certain education requirements to administer local anesthesia under the direct supervision of a dentist.

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### **CONTENT AND OPERATION**

#### **Administration of local anesthesia by dental hygienists**

##### **Current law**

Pursuant to administrative rule, the only type of anesthesia<sup>1</sup> a dental hygienist is authorized to administer is topical anesthesia (Ohio Administrative Code 4715-9-01(E)). "Topical anesthesia" includes solutions, ointments, or jellies that, when applied to mucous membranes or skin, cause superficial loss of sensation in the area where applied.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> "Anesthesia" means general or local insensibility to pain and other sensation, induced by certain drugs. *THE RANDOM HOUSE COLLEGE DICTIONARY 51* (Revised Ed. 1988).

<sup>2</sup> *STEDMAN'S MEDICAL DICTIONARY 71* (24th ed. 1982).

## The bill

(R.C. 4715.231)

The bill expands the types of anesthesia a dental hygienist may administer by permitting a dental hygienist to administer intraoral,<sup>3</sup> block,<sup>4</sup> and infiltration<sup>5</sup> anesthesia to patients as long as the dental hygienist does all of the following:

- Administers the anesthesia under the direct supervision of a dentist.
- Successfully completes a course in the administration of local anesthesia offered by a dental or dental hygiene program that is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association and approved by the State Dental Board.
- Within 18 months of completion of the anesthesia course, successfully passes a state or regional written examination on local anesthesia administered by the State Dental Board.
- Obtains certification to perform basic cardiac life-support procedures as required under existing law.<sup>6</sup>

With respect to the education requirement, the bill provides that the Board may approve an anesthesia administration course only if it contains no less than 15 hours of didactic instruction and no less than 14 hours of clinical experience. The

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<sup>3</sup> *"Intraoral anesthesia" means regional anesthesia of the mouth and associated structures when local anesthetic solutions are used by topical application to oral mucosa, by local infiltration, or as nerve blocks. Id. at 70.*

<sup>4</sup> *"Block anesthesia" means the production of insensibility of a part by interrupting the sensory nerve conductivity from that region of the body. It may be produced by (1) field block (the creation of walls of anesthesia encircling the operative field by means of injections of local anesthetic), or (2) nerve block (injection of the anesthetic agent close to the nerves whose conductivity is to be cut off). DORLAND'S ILLUSTRATED MEDICAL DICTIONARY 87 (25th ed. 1974).*

<sup>5</sup> *"Infiltration anesthesia" means anesthesia produced by direct infiltration of local anesthetic solution into the operative site or, rarely, by freezing. STEDMAN'S MEDICAL DICTIONARY 70 (24th ed. 1982).*

<sup>6</sup> *R.C. 4715.251 requires a dental hygienist to be currently certified to perform basic life-support procedures by having completed a course certified by the American Red Cross or the American Heart Association.*

course must include instruction on each of the following topics: theory of pain control, selection of pain control modalities, anatomy, neurophysiology, pharmacology of local anesthetics, pharmacology of vasoconstrictors, psychological aspects of pain control, systematic complications, techniques of maxillary and mandibular anesthesia, infection control, and local anesthesia medical emergencies.

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## **HISTORY**

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>JOURNAL ENTRY</b>
Introduced	03-22-05	p. 352

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