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Legislative Service Commission

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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, Brown, DeBose, Otterman, Mason

BILL SUMMARY

Dental hygienists

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

Expanded function dental auxiliaries (EFDAs)

- Requires an individual who engages in the practice of an expanded function dental auxiliary (EFDA) to register with the State Dental Board and renew registration biennially on forms prescribed and furnished by the Board.
- Specifies the scope of practice of EFDAs.
- Requires the Secretary of the Dental Board to keep a record of all individuals registered as EFDAs in Ohio.
- Requires the Dental Board to adopt rules the Board considers necessary to implement and administer registration of EFDAs.
- Adds individuals who are registered as EFDAs to the professionals who
 may be disciplined by the Dental Board and provides that an individual
 who practices as an EFDA without registering is guilty of the same
 offenses as an individual who practices dentistry or dental hygiene
 without a valid license.

- Provides that an EFDA's supervising dentist and manager are subject to disciplinary action when an EFDA is found to have committed an action for which disciplinary action is prescribed.
- Adds dental procedures that require the professional competence of an EFDA to the procedures a dentist may not assign to a dental assistant.
- Authorizes the Dental Board to issue a volunteer's certificate to retired EFDAs desiring to offer dental services to indigent and uninsured persons and provides immunity from civil liability for these certificate holders.
- Requires a court that has entered a judgment of conviction for a drug offense committed by an EFDA to transmit a certified copy of the judgment entry to the Dental Board.
- Permits a city or a general health district board of health to purchase liability insurance for an EFDA with whom the board contracts for the provision of health care services.
- Requires an EFDA who knows or suspects abuse or neglect of or theft from a long-term care or a residential care facility resident to report that knowledge or suspicion to the Director of Health.

Dental x-ray machine operators

- Prohibits a person from practicing, or holding the person's self out as, a dental x-ray machine operator without a valid certificate (rather than a license) issued by the Dental Board.
- Eliminates a requirement that an applicant for an x-ray machine operator certificate pass an examination and instead requires the applicant to meet one of the requirements that exempts an applicant from the examination requirement under current law.
- Codifies the requirements an individual must meet to renew an x-ray machine operator certificate.
- Requires a person who wants to offer an educational program in dental x-ray machine operation to apply to the Dental Board for approval, not accreditation, of the program.

Composition of the Dental Board

- Requires two of the nine dentist members of the Dental Board to be specialists who represent different specialties.
- Specifies that a specialty that a Board member who is a dentist represents cannot be represented for two or more consecutive terms.

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CONTENT AND OPERATION

Administration of local anesthesia by dental hygienists

Current law

Pursuant to administrative rule, the only type of anesthesia¹ 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.²

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 block³ and infiltration⁴ local anesthesia to patients as long as the dental hygienist does all of the following:

• Administers the anesthesia under the direct supervision⁵ of a dentist.

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

² STEDMAN'S MEDICAL DICTIONARY 71 (24th ed. 1982).

³ "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).

⁴ "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).

⁵ "Direct supervision" means a dentist licensed under the Revised Code is present, for purposes of consultation and direction, at the location where a dental hygienist performs the administration of local anesthesia to a patient. The bill specifies that it does not mean that the dentist must observe the administration of local anesthesia to a patient.

- 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.
- Within 18 months of completion of the anesthesia course, successfully passes a state or regional written examination on local anesthesia approved by the State Dental Board.
- Obtains certification to perform basic cardiac life-support procedures as required under existing law.⁶

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 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.

Expanded function dental auxiliaries

Background

(existing R.C. 4715.39; Ohio Administrative Code 4715-3-01 and Chapter 4715-11)

Currently, the regulation of expanded function dental auxiliaries is governed primarily by administrative rules. The Revised Code provides that the State Dental Board may define through administrative rulemaking the duties that may be performed by dental assistants and "other individuals designated by the Board as qualified personnel."

Administrative rules adopted by the Dental Board specify that advanced qualified personnel, or "expanded function dental auxiliaries" (EFDAs), are persons who have passed the Board designated examination for EFDAs. EFDAs may perform "basic and advanced remediable intra-oral dental tasks or procedures" under the direct supervision and full responsibility of a licensed

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⁶ R.C. 4715.251 requires a dental hygienist to be currently certified to perform basic lifesupport procedures by having completed a course certified by the American Red Cross or the American Heart Association.

dentist. "Basic remediable intra-oral dental tasks or procedures" are defined as those dental tasks and procedures that do not create irreparable changes within the oral cavity or the contiguous structures. The rules include a long list of tasks and procedures that are considered basic remediable intra-oral dental tasks or procedures by the Board and define "advanced remediable inter-oral dental tasks and procedures."

The rules further provide that a dentist may not use more than two EFDAs at any given time and that a dentist who uses an EFDA must maintain in the dentist's office a current record of the training received by the EFDA and the EFDA's competency certification. A copy of the EFDA's training record and competency certification must also be sent to the Dental Board.

The bill requires each individual seeking to practice as an EFDA to register with the Dental Board. It also codifies the procedures constituting the practice of EFDAs and the enforcement authority the Board holds with respect to these individuals.

Scope of practice

(R.C. 4715.61)

The bill defines the "practice of expanded function dental auxiliary" as the following:

- (1) The procedures involved in the placement of restorative materials limited to amalgam restorative materials and non-metallic restorative materials, including direct-bonded restorative materials;
 - (2) The procedures involved in the placement of sealants;
 - (3) Any additional procedures specified by the Dental Board in rules.

The bill requires an EFDA to practice under the direct supervision, order, control, and full responsibility of a dentist licensed by the Dental Board. At no time can more than two EFDAs be practicing as EFDAs under the direct supervision of the same dentist. Furthermore, the bill prohibits an EFDA from practicing as an EFDA when the supervising dentist is not physically present at the location where the EFDA is practicing.

The bill also specifies that nothing in it authorizes an EFDA to engage in the practice of dental hygiene.

Registration

(R.C. 4715.60)

<u>In general</u>. The bill creates a registration process for EFDAs. Each individual seeking to register as an EFDA must file, under oath, a completed application with the Secretary of the Dental Board on a form prescribed and provided by the Board. An application must also include all of the following:

- (1) An application fee of \$20.
- (2) Proof that the individual holds current certification to perform basic life-support procedures, evidenced by documentation showing the successful completion of a basic life-support training course certified by either the American Red Cross or the American Heart Association.
- (3) Evidence satisfactory to the Board that the individual has successfully completed, at an educational institution accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association or the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, the education or training specified by the Board in rules as the education or training that is necessary to obtain registration to practice as an EFDA, as evidenced by a diploma or other certificate of graduation or completion that has been signed by an appropriate official of the accredited institution that provided education or training.
- (4) Evidence satisfactory to the Board that the individual has passed an examination approved by the Board in rules.
- (5) Evidence satisfactory to the Board that the individual is one of the following:
- (a) An unlicensed dentist who has graduated from an accredited dental college and does not have a dental license under suspension or revocation by the Board;
- (b) A dental student who is enrolled in an accredited dental college and is considered by the dean of the college to be in good standing;
 - (c) A graduate of a foreign dental college;
- (d) A dental assistant who is certified by the Dental Assisting National Board or the Ohio Commission on Dental Assistant Certification;

- (e) A dental hygienist licensed with the Board whose license is in good standing;
- (f) An unlicensed dental hygienist who has graduated from an accredited dental hygiene school and does not have a dental hygienist license under suspension or revocation by the Board.

If an applicant meets all of the above requirements, the bill requires the Board to register the applicant as an EFDA.

<u>Exceptions</u>. The bill specifies that the following individuals may engage in the practice of expanded function dental auxiliary without registering with the Board:

- (1) A dentist licensed by the Board;
- (2) A dental student who engages in any activities performed by EFDAs as an integral part of a program of study leading to the receipt of a license from the Board to practice as a dentist;
- (3) An expanded function dental auxiliary student when the student participates in an educational or training activity of an accredited educational institution or a training program that does both of the following:
 - (a) Provides the education or training necessary to practice as an EFDA;
- (b) Ensures that a dentist licensed by the Board, or a dentist who holds a limited teaching license issued by the Board, is physically present in the facility where the EFDA performs clinical dental procedures on patients.

Registration renewal

(R.C. 4715.601)

The bill provides that an EFDA's registration expires on December 31 of the year following the year in which the EFDA registers. An EFDA may renew a registration for subsequent two-year periods by submitting a completed renewal application and a renewal fee of \$20 each time the EFDA seeks to renew a registration.

The bill requires the Dental Board to renew a registration if the EFDA fulfills the requirements discussed above and is not in violation of any other law or rule governing the practice of an expanded function dental auxiliary. Registration renewals must be conducted in accordance with the standard renewal procedure established in R.C. Chapter 4745.

Recordkeeping

(R.C. 4715.62)

The bill requires the Secretary of the Dental Board to keep a record of all persons registered as EFDAs. For each EFDA, the record must identify the location where the person primarily practices and the person's supervising dentists.

Enforcement

(R.C. 4715.30, primarily; also 4715.05 and 4715.301)

Disciplinary actions. Current law provides that the holder of a certificate or license issued by the Dental Board is subject to disciplinary action by the Board for an extensive list of reasons. The bill adds that the holder of a registration issued by the Board is subject to disciplinary action by the Board for the same reasons.

In addition, one of the reasons for which a certificate or license holder may be disciplined is for providing or allowing dental hygienists or other practitioners of auxiliary dental occupations working under the certificate or license holder's supervision to provide dental care that departs from or fails to conform to accepted standards for the profession, whether or not injury to a patient results. The bill adds that a certificate or license holder is also subject to disciplinary action if that certificate or license holder provides or allows EFDAs working under the certificate or license holder's supervision to provide dental care that departs from or fails to conform to accepted standards for the profession, whether or not injury to a patient results.

Current law also provides that a manager, proprietor, operator, or conductor of a dental facility is subject to disciplinary action if a dentist, dental hygienist, or qualified personnel providing services in the facility is found to have committed an action for which disciplinary action is prescribed. The bill adds that a manager, proprietor, operator, or conductor of a dental facility is subject to disciplinary action if an EFDA providing services in the facility is found to have committed an action for which disciplinary action is prescribed.

Injunction to restrain practice as an EFDA. Existing law provides that the Dental Board may ask the Ohio Attorney General or the prosecuting attorney of any county where a dentist or dental hygienist is practicing without a valid license or certificate to apply to the common pleas court of the county where the unauthorized practice occurs for an injunction to restrain such practice. The court must grant injunctive relief on a showing that the person alleged to be engaging in the unauthorized practice of dentistry or dental hygiene is engaging in such unauthorized practice.

The bill expands the injunctive relief provision by authorizing the Board to seek an injunction against a person who practices without a license or certificate or who is not registered with the Board as required by the dental practices law (R.C. Chapter 4715.). Thus, the bill gives the Board authority to seek an injunction against a person who engages in the practice of an expanded function dental auxiliary without a valid registration to practice as an EFDA. Likewise, the bill requires a court to grant injunctive relief to the Board on a showing that the person alleged to be engaging in the unauthorized practice of expanded function dental auxiliary is engaging in such unauthorized practice.

Substance abuse treatment. Under current law, the Dental Board must adopt rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (R.C. Chapter 119.) establishing standards for approving and designating physicians and facilities as treatment providers for dentists and dental hygienists with substance abuse problems. In turn, treatment providers are required to submit certain reports to the Board and to take other actions with respect to dentists or dental hygienists under the treatment providers' care. Current law also prescribes that in the absence of fraud or bad faith, no professional association of dentists or dental hygienists that sponsors a committee to provide peer assistance to dentists or dental hygienists with substance abuse problems, no representative or agent of such a committee or program, and no member of the Board may be liable for damages in a civil action by reason of actions taken to refer a dentist or dental hygienist to a Board-approved treatment provider or actions or omissions of the provider in treating a dentist or dental hygienist. Further, in the absence of fraud or bad faith, no person who reports to the Board a dentist or dental hygienist with a suspected substance abuse problem may be liable to any person for damages in a civil action as a result of making the report.

The bill expands the above provisions by doing all of the following:

- (1) Requiring the Board to adopt rules establishing standards for approving and designating physicians and facilities as treatment providers for EFDAs;
- (2) Requiring treatment providers to submit the same reports to the Board and to take the same actions with respect to EFDAs that the treatment providers must take with respect to dentists and dental hygienists under the treatment providers' care;
- (3) Providing that in the absence of fraud or bad faith, no professional association of *license*, *certificate*, *or registration holders* that sponsors a committee to provide peer assistance to *license*, *certificate*, *or registration holders*

with substance abuse problems, no representative or agent of such a committee or program, and no member of the Board may be liable for damages in a civil action by reason of actions taken to refer a license, certificate, or registration holder to a Board-approved treatment provider or actions or omissions of the provider in treating a license, certificate, or registration holder;

(4) Providing that in the absence of fraud or bad faith, no person who reports to the Board a license, certificate, or registration holder with a suspected substance abuse problem may be liable to any person for damages in a civil action as a result of making the report.

EFDA registration relative to dental assistants and qualified personnel

(R.C. 4715.39)

Existing law provides that, subject to law and administrative rules adopted by the Dental Board, licensed dentists may assign to dental assistants and other qualified personnel dental procedures that do not require the professional competence or skill of a licensed dentist or a dental hygienist. The bill further restricts the procedures a licensed dentist may assign to a dental assistant by providing that a dental assistant may not be assigned dental procedures that require the professional competence of an EFDA.

The bill specifies that nothing in it permits dental assistants or other qualified personnel to engage in the practice of expanded function dental auxiliary or to perform the duties of an EFDA other than as authorized by law.

Volunteer's certificates for retirees

(R.C. 4715.42)

Under current law, the Dental Board may issue a volunteer's certificate to a dentist or dental hygienist who is retired from the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene. The volunteer's certificate allows the certificate holder to provide dental services to indigent and uninsured persons. When applying for a volunteer's certificate, a retired dentist or dental hygienist must submit certain documentation to the Board along with a completed application.

The bill permits a retired EFDA to also apply for a volunteer's certificate. Similar to a retired dentist or dental hygienist, a retired EFDA applying for a volunteer's certificate must submit the following documentation to the Board:

(1) A copy of the retired EFDA's degree, diploma, or other certificate of graduation or completion from an accredited educational institution or training program that provides the education or training necessary to obtain registration to practice as an EFDA.

- (2) A copy of either of the following, as applicable:
- (a) The retired EFDA's most recent license or registration to practice as an EFDA issued by a United States jurisdiction that licenses or registers persons to practice expanded function dental auxiliary.
- (b) The retired EFDA's most recent equivalent to a registration to practice expanded function dental auxiliary in one or more branches of the United States armed services that the United States government issued.
 - (3) Evidence of one of the following, as applicable:
- (a) The retired EFDA has maintained for at least ten years prior to retirement full licensure or registration in good standing in any United States jurisdiction that licenses or registers persons to practice expanded function dental auxiliary.
- (b) The retired EFDA has practiced as an EFDA in good standing for at least ten years prior to retirement in one or more branches of the United States armed services.

To be eligible to renew a volunteer's certificate, a retired EFDA must certify to the Board that the retired EFDA has completed the number of continuing expanded function dental auxiliary education hours specified in rules adopted by the Board.

Rulemaking authority

(R.C. 4715.63)

The bill requires the Dental Board to adopt rules, consistent with the Administrative Procedure Act (R.C. Chapter 119.), that the Board considers necessary to implement and administer the laws governing the practice and registration of EFDAs. The bill specifies, however, that the Board must adopt rules regarding the following:

- (1) The education or training necessary and the examination that must be passed for an individual to register as an EFDA;
- (2) The number of hours of continuing EFDA education an individual needs to renew a volunteer's certificate.

The bill also provides that the Board may adopt rules specifying additional procedures an EFDA may perform.

Penalties

(R.C. 4715.99)

Under current law, an individual who practices dentistry or dental hygiene without a valid license issued by the Dental Board is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree on a first offense and a felony of the fifth degree on each subsequent offense.

The bill provides that an individual who practices as an EFDA without registering with the Board is guilty of these same offenses.

Additional provisions

(R.C. 2305.234, 2925.01, 3709.161, and 3721.21)

Immunity of health care professionals. Current law provides immunity from civil liability to health care professionals who provide services under the volunteer program to persons who are indigent or uninsured. The bill adds EFDAs to those who have the immunity.

Current law governing drug offenses defines a Drug offenses. "professionally licensed person" as a person holding a license or certificate to practice or engage in one of a number of professions and occupations. If a professionally licensed person is found guilty of, or pleads guilty to, a drug offense, the court is required to transmit a certified copy of the judgment entry of conviction to the regulatory or licensing board or agency that has the administrative authority to suspend or revoke the offender's professional license.

The bill adds EFDAs to those included in the definition of "professionally licensed person." Thus, if an EFDA is convicted of, or pleads guilty to, a drug offense, the court with jurisdiction of the EFDA's case must transmit a certified copy of the judgment entry of conviction to the Dental Board.

Liability insurance. Current law authorizes the board of health of a city or a general health district to purchase liability insurance for a health care professional with whom the board contracts for the provision of health care services. The bill includes EFDAs as health care professionals for which a board of health or health district may purchase insurance.

Duty to report abuse. Under current law, if a licensed health care professional knows or suspects abuse, neglect, or burglary of a resident of a longterm care facility, the health care professional must report that knowledge or suspicion to the Director of Health. The bill includes EFDAs as health care professionals required to make such reports.

Dental X-ray machine operators

Scope of practice

(R.C. 4715.51 (not in the bill))

Under current law unchanged by the bill, a "dental x-ray machine operator" is an individual who, under the direct supervision of a dentist, performs standard, diagnostic, radiologic procedures for the purpose of contributing to the provision of dental care to a dental patient.⁷

Certification, not licensure, required

(R.C. 4715.52)

Current law prohibits a person from practicing or holding the person's self out as a dental x-ray machine operator without a valid license issued by the Dental Board. The following individuals, however, are exempt from this requirement:

- (1) Dentists and dental hygienists licensed by the Board;
- (2) Radiologic personnel employed by the federal government or serving in a branch of the armed forces:
- (3) Students engaging in any of the activities performed by dental x-ray machine operators as an integral part of a program of study leading to the receipt of a license or certificate issued by the Board.

The bill prohibits a person (except for the individuals discussed above) from practicing or holding the person's self out as a dental x-ray machine operator without a valid certificate (rather than license) issue by the Board.

Application fee

(R.C. 4715.53(A))

Under current law, each individual who seeks a license to practice as a dental x-ray machine operator must apply to the Dental Board on a form the Board

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⁷ "Standard, diagnostic, radiologic procedures" means those procedures involved in using dental equipment that emits ionizing radiation.

prescribes and provides. The application must be accompanied by a license application fee established in rules adopted by the Board. Presently, administrative rules set the application fee at \$25.

The bill removes the Board's authority to establish the application fee in rules, instead specifying that the fee is \$25.

Requirements for certification

(R.C 4715.53(B); 4715.54 (repealed))

Current law requires the Dental Board to issue a license to practice as a dental x-ray machine operator to an applicant who meets all of the following requirements:

- (1) Is age 18 or older;
- (2) Is of good moral character;
- (3) Passes an examination administered by the Board;⁸
- (4) Complies with any other licensing standards established by the Board in rules.

The bill eliminates the requirements discussed above and instead requires the Board to issue a *certificate* (instead of a license) to an applicant who submits evidence satisfactory to the Board that at least one of the following is true:

- (1) The applicant holds certification from the Dental Assisting National Board or the Ohio Commission on Dental Assistant Certification;
- (2) The applicant holds a license, certificate, permit, registration, or other credential issued by another state the Board determines uses standards for dental x-ray machine operators that are at least equal to those established in Ohio;

⁸ However, the following individuals are exempted from the examination requirements: (a) applicants who hold certification from the Dental Assisting National Board or the Ohio Commission on Dental Assistant Certification, (b) applicants who hold a conditional license issued by the Board and have completed continuing education requirements established by the Board in rules, and (c) applicants who hold a license, certificate, or other credential issued by another state that the Board determines uses standards for dental x-ray machine operators that are at least equal to those required in Ohio.

(3) The applicant has successfully completed an educational program consisting of at least seven hours of instruction in dental x-ray machine operation that (a) has been approved by the Board, or (b) is conducted by an institution accredited by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation.

Thus, the bill eliminates the requirement that an applicant for a dental x-ray machine operator's license pass an examination developed by the Dental Board and instead requires the applicant to meet one of the requirements that presently exempts an applicant from the examination requirement.

Requirements for renewal of certification

(R.C. 4715.53(D); Ohio Administrative Code 4715-12-03 and 4715-12-05 (not in the bill))

Under existing law, a dental x-ray machine operator's license may be renewed if the license holder provides proof to the Board at the time of renewal that the license holder has met the continuing education requirements specified, and pays the renewal fee adopted, by the Board in rules. The rules governing continuing education requirements for dental x-ray machine operators provide that a license holder must complete a minimum of two hours of continuing education in dental x-ray radiation technology in the two years preceding renewal. The rules also provide that the renewal fee is \$25.

The bill codifies the requirements an individual must meet to renew a certificate to practice as a dental x-ray machine operator. Under the bill, a certificate holder may renew a certificate if the holder does both of the following:

- (1) Certifies to the Board that the certificate holder has completed at least two hours of instruction in dental x-ray machine operation approved by the Board during the two-year period preceding the date the renewal application is received by the Board;
 - (2) Submits a renewal fee of \$25.

Approval, not accreditation, of educational programs

(R.C. 4715.57 and 4715.58 (repealed))

Current law requires each person seeking accreditation for an educational program in dental x-ray machine operation to apply to the Dental Board on a form the Board must prescribe and provide. The application must be accompanied by a

fee established in rules, which is currently \$67.50.9 The Board must accredit educational programs that meet standards established in rules adopted by the Board. The accreditation is valid until surrendered by the program, or suspended or revoked by the Board. A program's accreditation may be suspended or revoked if the program does not comply with applicable requirements of the Dental Practices Act (R.C. Chapter 4715.) or any rules adopted under it.

The bill requires a person who wants to offer an educational program in dental x-ray machine operation to instead apply for *approval*, not accreditation, of the program. The bill also moves law regarding the Board's authority to adopt rules that are not less stringent than standards specified in federal regulations¹⁰ regarding both of the following:

- (1) The fee that must accompany an application for approval of an educational program;
 - (2) The standards that an educational program must meet to be approved.

Conditional license

(R.C. 4715.55 (repealed))

The bill repeals law that until October 20, 1995, permitted an individual engaging in the activities of a dental x-ray machine operator to obtain a conditional license.

Composition of the Dental Board

(R.C. 4715.02)

Under current law, of the 13-member State Dental Board, nine members must be dentists who are graduates of reputable dental colleges, U.S. citizens, and have been in the legal and reputable practice of dentistry in Ohio for at least five years preceding appointment. Of these nine, *not more than two* can be specialists pursuant to rules adopted by the Board.¹¹

⁹ O.A.C. 4715-12-04(C).

¹⁰ 42 Code of Federal Regulations 75.

¹¹ According to Rebecca Hockenberry, Assistant Director of the Dental Board, Ohio Administrative Code 4715-5-04 lists the specialist designations the Board recognizes: (1) orthodontists, (2) oral surgeons, (3) oral and maxillofacial surgeons, (4) oral and maxillofacial radiologists, (5) periodontists, (6) pedodontists, (7) pediatric dentists, (8) prosthodontists, (9) endodontists, (10) oral pathologists, and (11) public health dentists.

The bill requires two of the nine dentist members of the Board to be specialists who represent different specialties. It also specifies that a specialty that a Board member who is a dentist represents cannot be represented for two or more consecutive terms.

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