

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 343

BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO DENTISTS; AMENDING SECTION 54-903, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE A DEFINITION.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section 54-903, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

54-903. GENERAL DEFINITIONS. As used in this chapter:

(1) "Association" means the Idaho state dental association and the Idaho dental hygienists' association.

(2) "Board" means the state board of dentistry.

(3) "Conviction" or "convicted" means a finding of guilt by a judge or jury, an entry of a guilty plea by a defendant and its acceptance by the court, a forfeiture of a bail bond or collateral deposited to secure a defendant's appearance, a judgment of conviction, a suspended sentence, probation, or a withheld judgment.

(4) "Dental assistant" is a person who need not be licensed under this chapter, but who is regularly employed at a dental office, who works under a dentist's supervision, and is adequately trained and qualified according to standards established by the board to perform the dental services permitted to be performed by assistants by this chapter and applicable rules of the board.

(5) "Dental hygienist" is a person both qualified and licensed by the laws of Idaho to practice dental hygiene.

(6) "Dental specialist" is a dentist ~~who limits practice to a specialty recognized by the American dental association,~~ who has graduated from a board-approved postgraduate program in the dentist's specialty and is a person both qualified and licensed by the laws of Idaho to practice a dental specialty recognized by the board.

(7) "Dentist" is a person both qualified and licensed by the laws of Idaho to practice dentistry.

(8) "Direct supervision" is supervision of a dental assistant or dental hygienist requiring that a dentist diagnose the condition to be treated, that a dentist authorize the procedure to be performed, that a dentist remain in the dental office while the procedure is performed, and that before dismissal of the patient a dentist approves the work performed by the dental assistant or dental hygienist.

(9) "Extended access oral health care program" means and includes:

(a) Dental and dental hygiene treatment and services provided as part of a program conducted by or through a school district, county, state or federal agency, hospital, long-term care facility, public health district, dental or dental hygiene school, tribal clinic, or federally qualified health center; or

1 (b) Oral health care programs approved by the board and conducted by or  
2 through a nonprofit public or private entity, organized in accordance  
3 with section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) of the federal Internal Revenue  
4 Code, that provide free dental or dental hygiene services to persons  
5 who, due to age, infirmity, indigence, disability or other similar  
6 reason, may be unable to receive regular dental and dental hygiene  
7 treatment. The board may require reapproval of the oral health care  
8 programs on an annual basis or at such other times as may be deemed by the  
9 board to be necessary or appropriate.

10 (10) "General supervision" is supervision of a dental assistant or den-  
11 tal hygienist requiring that a dentist authorize the procedure which is car-  
12 ried out, but not requiring that a dentist be in the office when the autho-  
13 rized procedure is performed.

14 (11) "Indirect supervision" is supervision of a dental assistant or  
15 dental hygienist requiring that a dentist authorize a procedure and that a  
16 dentist be in the dental office while the procedure is performed by the as-  
17 sistant or hygienist.