



Legislative Council Staff
Research Note

Version: Final
Date: 9/16/2016

Bill Number

House Bill 16-1327

Sponsors

Representative Ginal
Senator Grantham

Short Title

*Financial Responsibility For
Dental Hygienists*

Research Analyst

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Status

This research note reflects the final version of the bill which became effective on August 10, 2016.

Summary

This bill allows the State Dental Board to establish a lesser financial responsibility requirement for professional liability insurance for dental hygienists that meet certain criteria, which aligns with the requirements for dentists.

Background

Prior to the passage of this bill, state law required dental hygienists to have professional liability insurance that covered up to \$50,000 per claim or up to a total of \$300,000 per year. In the case of dentists, the State Dental Board was permitted to establish lesser financial responsibility requirements for dentists that:

- perform dental services as employees of the federal government;
- provide limited or occasional dental services;
- provide less than full-time dental services because of retirement or administrative duties; or
- provide only free dental care to patients.

With the passage of House Bill 16-1327, the requirements listed above will also apply for establishing lesser financial responsibility for dental hygienists.

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House Action

House Health, Insurance, and Environment Committee (March 22, 2016). At the hearing, representatives of the Colorado Dental Association and Colorado Dental Hygienists Association testified in support of the bill. The committee referred the bill to the House Committee of the Whole with no amendments.

House second reading (March 28, 2016). The House passed the bill on second reading with no amendments.

House third reading (March 29, 2016). The House passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.

Senate Action

Senate Health and Human Services Committee (March 31, 2016). At the hearing, representatives of the Colorado Dental Association and Colorado Dental Hygienists Association testified in support of the bill. The committee referred the bill to the Senate Committee of the Whole with no amendments.

Senate second reading (April 5, 2016). The Senate passed the bill on second reading with no amendments.

Senate third reading (April 6, 2016). The Senate passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.