



**Colorado
Legislative
Council
Staff**

SB16-009

FISCAL NOTE

FISCAL IMPACT: State Local Statutory Public Entity Conditional No Fiscal Impact

Drafting Number: LLS 16-0346
Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Grantham
Rep. Primavera

Date: January 21, 2016
Bill Status: Senate Health & Human Services
Fiscal Analyst: Bill Zepernick (303-866-4777)

BILL TOPIC: PROHIBIT REFERRAL FEES WHEN DIVIDING DENTAL FEES

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2016-2017	FY 2017-2018
State Revenue		
State Expenditures	Minimal workload increase.	
FTE Position Change		
Appropriation Required: None.		
Future Year Impacts: Minimal ongoing state workload increase.		

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, a licensed dentist or dental hygienist may face disciplinary action by the Colorado Dental Board for sharing professional fees with anyone except those with whom he or she is lawfully associated in the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene. The bill repeals this current prohibition and replaces it with language similar to the fee sharing restriction in place for physicians. Specifically, a dentist or dental hygienist may face disciplinary action for the following under the bill:

- dividing a fee with or paying a person in exchange for the person sending or bringing a patient to the licensee, recommending the licensee to a patient, or agreeing to such an arrangement; and
- presenting a bill or requesting payment for services rendered by a person other than the licensee.

State Expenditures

The bill may result in a minimal workload increase in the Division of Professions and Occupations in the Regulatory Agencies (DORA). Initially, DORA staff will be required to conduct rulemaking and perform outreach to dentists and dental hygienists about the changes in the bill. On an ongoing basis, the bill may potentially increase the number of complaints concerning licensed dentists and dental hygienists, which will also increase workload. The Department of Law may be required to provide additional legal services to DORA concerning rulemaking and complaints resulting from the bill. However, this workload is expected to be minimal and can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 10, 2016, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 11, 2016, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed. It applies to conduct occurring on or after the effective date of the bill.

State and Local Government Contacts

Health Care Policy and Financing
Office of Information Technology

Law
Regulatory Agencies