



Legislative Council Staff

Research Note

Version: Final

Date: 11/10/2016

Bill Number

Senate Bill 16-009

Sponsors

Senator Grantham
Representative Primavera

Short Title

***Prohibit Referral Fees When
Dividing Dental Fees***

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

The bill adds an exemption to the Dental Practice Act to allow dentists and dental hygienists to contract for business management services or pay a royalty in accordance with a franchise agreement. The exemption only applies if the terms of the contract or franchise agreement do not affect the dentist or dental hygienists ability to exercise independent professional judgement in providing care to patients.

Background

Under current law, dentists and dental hygienists are prohibited from sharing professional fees with anyone except those with whom they are lawfully associated in the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene.

Senate Action

Senate Health and Human Services Committee (January 28, 2016). During the meeting, representatives of the Colorado Dental Association and Comfort Dental testified in support of the bill. The committee adopted amendment L.001 and referred the bill to the Senate Committee of the Whole.

Amendment L.001 adds an exemption to the Dental Practice Act to allow dentists and dental

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hygienists to contract for business management services or pay a royalty in accordance with a franchise agreement. The amendment specifies that the exemption only applies if the terms of the contract or franchise agreement do not affect the dentist or dental hygienists ability to exercise independent professional judgement in providing care to patients

Senate second reading (February 2, 2016). The Senate adopted the Senate Health and Human Services committee report and passed the bill, as amended, on second reading.

Senate third reading (February 3, 2016). The Senate passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.

House Action

House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee (February 9, 2016). A representative of Comfort Dental testified in support of the bill. The committee referred the bill to the House Committee of the Whole with no amendments.

House second reading (February 16, 2016). The House passed the bill on second reading with no amendments.

House third reading (February 18, 2016). The House passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.