A BILL FOR AN ACT

CONCERNING THE AUTHORITY OF THE COLORADO DENTAL BOARD TO
PROMULGATE RULES BASED ON CLARIFICATIONS TO EXISTING
LAWS THAT RELATE TO COLLABORATIVE DENTAL AGREEMENTS.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at http://leg.colorado.gov.)

The bill clarifies that the Colorado dental board may promulgate rules for the use of lasers for dental and dental hygiene purposes within the defined scopes of practice and with appropriate supervision. The bill makes clarifications as to what is considered the practice of unsupervised dental hygiene. The bill also corrects a statutory reference.
Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-35-107, amend (1) introductory portion, (1)(b) introductory portion, and (1)(b)(I) as follows:

12-35-107. Powers and duties of board. (1) The board shall exercise, in accordance with this article ARTICLE 35, the following powers and duties:

(b) Make, publish, declare, and periodically review reasonable rules as necessary to carry out and make effective the powers and duties of the board as vested in it by this article ARTICLE 35, including rules regarding:

(I) The use of lasers for dental AND DENTAL HYGIENE purposes including limiting the use of lasers by dental hygienists only to pocket disinfection at settings that preclude hard and soft tissue removal WITHIN DEFINED SCOPES OF PRACTICE, SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATE EDUCATION AND TRAINING, AND WITH APPROPRIATE SUPERVISION, AS APPLICABLE;

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-35-124, amend (1)(b), (1)(g)(I), (1)(g)(III)(B), and (1)(g)(III)(C); and add (1)(g)(III)(D) as follows:

12-35-124. What constitutes practicing unsupervised dental hygiene. (1) Unless licensed to practice dentistry, a person shall be deemed to be practicing unsupervised dental hygiene who, within the scope of the person's education, training, and experience:

(b) Removes granulation and degenerated tissue from the gingival wall of a periodontal pocket; incidental to root planing;

(g) (I) Prescribes, administers, and dispenses fluoride, fluoride
varnish, and antimicrobial solutions for mouth rinsing, and other nonsystemic antimicrobial agents, AND RELATED EMERGENCY DRUGS AND REVERSAL AGENTS in collaboration with a licensed dentist. THE BOARD MAY, BY RULE, FURTHER DEFINE THE PERMISSIBLE AND APPROPRIATE EMERGENCY DRUGS AND REVERSAL AGENTS. Dental hygienists shall maintain clear documentation in the patient record of the DRUG OR agent prescribed, administered, or dispensed; the date of the action; and the rationale for prescribing, administering, or dispensing the DRUG OR agent.

(III) A dental hygienist may prescribe the following:

(B) Topical anti-caries treatments as follows, all using sodium fluoride unless otherwise indicated: Toothpastes: 1.1% or less (or stannous fluoride 0.4%); topical gels: 1.1% or less (or stannous fluoride 0.4%); oral rinses: 0.05%, 0.2%, 0.44%, or 0.5%; oral rinse concentrate used in periodontal disease: 0.63% stannous fluoride; fluoride varnish: 5%; and prophy pastes containing approximately 1.23% sodium fluoride and used for polishing procedures as part of professional dental prophylaxis treatment; and

(C) Topical anti-infectives as follows: Chlorhexidine gluconate rinses: 0.12%; chlorhexidine gluconate periodontal chips for subgingival insertion into the periodontal pocket/sulcus; tetracycline impregnated fibers, inserted subgingivally into the periodontal pocket/sulcus; doxycycline hyclate periodontal gel, inserted subgingivally into the periodontal pocket/sulcus; and minocycline hydrochlorided periodontal paste powder, inserted subgingivally into the periodontal pocket/sulcus; AND

(D) RELATED EMERGENCY DRUGS AND REVERSAL AGENTS AS AUTHORIZED BY THE COLLABORATING DENTIST.
SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-35-128.5, amend (1) introductory portion and (1)(c) as follows:

12-35-128.5. Interim therapeutic restorations by dental hygienists - permitting process - repeal. (1) Upon application, accompanied by a fee in an amount determined by the director of the Division of Professions and Occupations, the board shall grant a permit to place interim therapeutic restorations to any dental hygienist applicant who:

(c) Carries current professional liability insurance in the amount specified in section 12-35-141; (2), C.R.S.; and

SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August 9, 2017, if adjournment sine die is on May 10, 2017); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2018 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.