AN ACT

Relating to the licensure of dentists; and providing for an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1
AN ACT

1 Relating to the licensure of dentists; and providing for an effective date.

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* Section 1. AS 08.36.100 is amended to read:

Sec. 08.36.100. License required. Except as provided in AS 08.36.238 and 08.36.254, a person may not practice, or attempt to practice, dentistry without a license.

* Sec. 2. AS 08.36 is amended by adding a new section to article 2 to read:

Sec. 08.36.254. Temporary permit to substitute for an incapacitated dentist. (a) The board may issue a temporary permit to practice dentistry to a dentist for the purpose of substituting for an incapacitated dentist licensed in this state.

(b) A dentist applying for a temporary permit under (a) of this section shall

(1) hold an active license from a board of dental examiners established under the laws of a state or territory of the United States issued after thorough examination;

(2) pay the required fee; and
(3) meet other qualifications for a temporary permit established by regulation.

(c) A temporary permit issued under this section is valid only to treat patients of the incapacitated dentist at an address listed on the business license of the incapacitated dentist.

(d) The fee for a permit issued under this section is one-fourth of the fee for a biennial license plus the appropriate application fee.

(e) The board may not issue a temporary permit under this section if another dentist licensed under this chapter may reasonably substitute for the incapacitated dentist.

(f) A temporary permit issued under this section is initially valid for 90 consecutive calendar days. Upon request of a permittee, the board shall extend a permit issued under this section for 60 calendar days if, before the expiration of the initial 90-day permit, the permittee submits to the board a completed application form and the fee required under this chapter, except that the board may refuse to grant a request for an extension for the same reasons the board may revoke a license under AS 08.36.315. Permits and extensions of permits issued to a permittee under this section are not valid for more than 240 calendar days during any consecutive 24 months.

(g) The board may extend a permit issued under this section for a period that exceeds the limit established in (f) of this section if the board determines that the extension is necessary to provide essential dental services and the board has received a clearance report from the

(1) National Practitioner Data Bank; and

(2) United States Drug Enforcement Administration.

(h) In this section, "incapacitated" means impaired by a health condition that renders a dentist unable to practice dentistry for more than 30 days.

* Sec. 3. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

TRANSITION: REGULATIONS. The Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development and the Board of Dental Examiners may adopt regulations necessary
to implement the changes made by this Act. The regulations take effect under AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act), but not before the effective date of the relevant provision of this Act implemented by the regulation.

* Sec. 4. Section 3 of this Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

* Sec. 5. Except as provided in sec. 4 of this Act, this Act takes effect January 1, 2019.