



SENATOR DENNIS EGAN

HCS for CSSB 92(L&C)

"An Act relating to dental hygienists, dentists, dental assistants, dental hygiene, and dentistry."

SPONSOR STATEMENT

HCSCSSB92(L&C) clarifies the statutes for dental hygienists, dentists and the board of dental examiners.

The dental statutes set the requirements to obtain and renew a dental license, specify the grounds for discipline and set the requirements for training of a dental assistant. The dental hygiene statutes also set the requirements to obtain and renew a dental hygiene license, list the procedures that a dental hygienist may perform and specify the grounds for discipline.

The board meets at least four times a year and consists of nine members appointed by the governor. Six members are dentists, two members are dental hygienists and one member is from the general public. The statutes governing the board of dental examiners specify the makeup of the board, the times the board shall meet and the powers of the board.

The board adopts regulations to carry out the laws governing the practice of dentistry and dental hygiene in Alaska. It makes final licensing decisions and takes disciplinary action against people who violate the licensing laws.

While incremental changes have been made to these statutes from time to time, it has been many years since anyone comprehensively reviewed them. This bill represents the work of a committee of dentist and dental hygienists who seek to bring the laws governing those professions into line with current standards and practice.

----- ALASKA SENATE -----

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