



Division of Legislative Audit

Report Digest #08-20069-10

SUMMARY OF: A Sunset Review on the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED), Board of Dental Examiners (BDE), September 30, 2010

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

In accordance with Title 24 and Title 44 of the Alaska Statutes (sunset legislation), we have reviewed the activities of BDE. The purpose of this audit was to determine if there is a demonstrated public need for its continued existence and if it has been operating in an effective manner. As required by AS 44.66.050(a), this report shall be considered by the committee of reference during the legislative oversight process in determining whether the BDE should be re-established. Currently, under AS 08.03.010(c)(7), BDE will terminate on June 30, 2011, and will have one year from that date to conclude its administrative operations.

REPORT CONCLUSIONS

BDE should continue to regulate dentists and dental hygienists. The board is serving the public's interest by promoting the competence and integrity of those who provide services to the public as licensed dentists and dental hygienists. We recommend the legislature extend BDE's termination date to June 30, 2019.

DCCED's, Division of Corporation, Business and Professional Licensing's (DCBPL) investigation unit did not address all investigations in a timely manner.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. DCBPL's chief investigator should take steps to ensure complaints and cases are investigated timely.