



Representative Ivy Spohnholz

House Health & Social Services Committee Co-Chair

Serving House District 16: College Gate, Russian Jack, Nunaka Valley, & Reflection Lake

Committee Member: Resources, Energy, & Legislative Budget & Audit

Sectional Analysis

House Bill 127

Dental Hygienist Advanced Practice Permit

Section 1

AS 08.32.110. Scope of practice of dental hygienists.

(e) This section is amended to allow a licensed dental hygienist who holds an advanced practice permit issued by the board to perform the duties allowed by the permit.

Section 2

AS 08.32.125. Advanced practice permits. This is a new section that adds language for the advanced practice permit requirements.

- (a) The Board of Dental Examiners may issue an advanced practice permit to a licensed dental hygienist with a minimum 4,000 documented hours of clinical experience. A licensed dental hygienist with an advanced practice permit may perform the specific services listed.
- (b) A licensed dental hygienist holding an advanced practice permit may provide services to a patient who is not able to receive dental treatment because of age, infirmity, or disability. The patient may be a resident of a senior center, residential health facility, or held in a local correctional facility. The patient may also be enrolled in certain schools, receiving benefits under the Special Supplemental Food Program (WIC), homebound, or a resident of a community that has a shortage of dental health professionals.
- (c) A licensed dental hygienist holding an advanced practice permit can provide services listed in subsection (a) to a patient described in subsection (b) without the presence, authorization, or supervision of a licensed dentist or without an examination from a licensed dentist.
- (d) A licensed dental hygienist with an advanced practice permit that provides services will maintain professional liability insurance. They will also give the patient, parent, or legal guardian written notice that the treatment provided will be limited to services listed under subsection (a), a written recommendation that the patient be examined by a licensed



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dentist for comprehensive oral care, and assistance in receiving a referral to a licensed dentist for further oral treatment.

- (e) A licensed dental hygienist with an advanced practice permit may practice as an independent contractor.
- (f) An advanced practice permit is valid until the license of the dental hygienist expires. A licensed dental hygienist can renew their advanced practice permit at the same time they renew their license.

Section 3

This section, under Title 21 Unfair Discrimination, has added a dental hygienist holding an advanced practice permit to AS 21.36.090 subsection (d).

Section 4

This section has included dental hygiene services under AS 47.07.030(b) Title 47.

Section 5

This is a new section that allows the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED) and the Board of Dental Examiners to adopt regulations necessary to implement the changes made in this bill. The regulations may not take effect before the effective date of this bill.

Section 6

Section 5 takes effect immediately.

Section 7

The effective date of this bill (not including Section 6) is July 1, 2020.