



Representative Ivy Spohnholz

House Labor & Commerce, Chair

House Health & Social Services, Vice Chair

House Energy, Vice Chair

Serving House District 16: Anchorage

Explanation of Changes

HB 127 Version M: Dental Hygienist Advanced Practice Permit

Updated bill title

1. Version M added “relating to dental assistants” to the bill title (*page 1, line 2*).

Clarified anesthesia permitting

2. Version M amended Section 2(a)(11) to clarify that an advanced practice permit-holder must be separately certified by the State of Alaska Board of Dental Examiners to administer local anesthesia (*page 2, line 24*).

Version A: (11) administration of local anesthesia; and

Version M: (11) if certified by the board, administration of local anesthesia; and

- This change reflects what is currently in statute under the scope of practice of dental hygienists (AS 08.32.110). This clarification was requested by the Board of Dental Examiners.

Updated grounds for discipline

3. Version M ensured that advanced permit holders will not be punished for independently performing the services listed in Section 2(a) (*page 4, lines 26-27*).
4. Version M added subsections to allow the board to discipline permit-holders who permit dental assistants to perform work outside their scope of practice (*page 4, line 31 - page 5, line 2*) or who falsify, destroy, or fail to maintain a patient or facility record for at least seven years (*page 5, lines 3-5*).

- This is similar to what licensed dentists have in their statutes and regulations for keeping patient medical records.
- The Board of Dental Examiners and Alaska Dental Society both requested this change.

Added delegatory authority

5. Version M added Section 4, which allows advanced practice permit-holders to delegate certain tasks to dental assistants (*page 5, lines 6-12*).
 6. Version M added delegation to dental assistants to the list of services which advanced practice permit-holders may perform (*page 2, line 28*).
- These changes are needed to allow the Board of Dental Examiners to hold advanced practice permit-holders accountable for dental assistants who work with them.

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- The Board of Dental Examiners and Alaska Dental Society requested this change.

Allowed the Department of Health & Social Services to adopt regulations related to this bill

7. Version M added the Department of Health & Social Services to the group of departments and boards which are tasked with adopting regulations necessary to implement the changes in this bill
 - DHSS requested this change.