

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 8 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Cannon, Doherty, Hoyle, Kennemer, Parrish, Weidner, Greenlick, Thompson

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/14, 3/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Amends the definition of the practice of denture technology to include not only dentures, but other removable nonorthodontic dental appliances worn in the human mouth. Allows Oregon Health Licensing Agency (OHLA) to adopt rules to waive practical examination requirements, as well as issue temporary licenses to practice denture technology.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Education requirement to become denturists
- Clarification that licensed dentist may provide services within their scope of services
- Prosthetic devices
- Current services provided by denturists
- Manufacturer of mouth trays

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Denturists are required to have a two years associate degree which includes training and education in fitting devices including, but not limited to, teeth whitening trays, sleep apnea devices, partial and upper/lower dentures. Currently, the practice of denture technology limits a dentist to only fitting prosthetic devices, which replace teeth in the human mouth.

Temporarily licensed denturists complete an associate's degree in denture technology followed by a 1000-hour hands-on practical training program with a qualified supervisor. Upon completion of education and training, an individual must take a board-approved written and practical examination. Currently, the written exam is computer based and can be taken any time at the Oregon Health Licensing Agency. The practical examination is given once a year due to the cost and number of individuals qualified to take the practical exam.