

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Health Care

Fiscal: No Fiscal Impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 05/13/15

Action: Do Pass As Amended And Be Printed Engrossed.

Meeting Dates: 05/06, 05/13

Vote:

Yeas: 8 - Buehler, Clem, Greenlick, Hayden, Kennemer, Lively, Nosse, Weidner

Exc: 1 - Keny-Guyer

Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Permits existing dental clinics for special needs children to be operated by charitable corporations, as specified. Clarifies that clinic/program has to be at an existing, single fixed location or one or more mobile locations. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Current ownership statute
- Existing dental program serving children with special needs
- Special exemptions
- Board of Dentistry role and actions
- Proposed amendment

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Clarifies that clinic/program has to be at an existing, single fixed location or one or more mobile locations.

BACKGROUND:

The Providence Specialty Pediatric Dental Clinic is owned by a nonprofit corporation. It serves approximately 1400 children with developmental, medical and behavioral disabilities. Diagnoses range from autism spectrum disorders, to cerebral palsy, to Down Syndrome, to anxiety disorders and includes children who are medically fragile; however, current law generally requires that dental clinics be owned by dentists, not by nonprofit corporations.

Senate Bill 474-A provides an exception to the requirement that dentists own dental clinics, in order to permit a specialized clinic, owned by a charitable corporation, to continue to serve children with special needs.