

Enrolled House Bill 2528

Sponsored by Representatives SANCHEZ, BYNUM; Representatives ALONSO LEON, CAMPOS, DEXTER, MEEK, PRUSAK, SOLLMAN, WILLIAMS, WITT, Senator DEMBROW (Pre-session filed.)

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to dental therapy; creating new provisions; amending ORS 679.010, 679.140, 679.170 and 679.250 and section 1, chapter 716, Oregon Laws 2011; and prescribing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. Sections 2 to 12 of this 2021 Act are added to and made a part of ORS chapter 679.

SECTION 2. As used in sections 2 to 12 of this 2021 Act:

- (1) "Collaborative agreement" means a written and signed agreement entered into between a dentist and a dental therapist under section 8 of this 2021 Act.
- (2) "Dental pilot project" means an Oregon Health Authority dental pilot project developed and operated by the authority.
- (3) "Dentist" means a person licensed to practice dentistry under this chapter.

SECTION 3. (1) The Oregon Board of Dentistry shall issue a license to practice dental therapy to an applicant who:

- (a) Is at least 18 years of age;
- (b) Submits to the board a completed application form;
- (c) Demonstrates the completion of a dental therapy education program;
- (d) Passes an examination described in section 4 of this 2021 Act; and
- (e) Pays the application and licensure fees established by the board.

(2)(a) An individual who completed a dental therapy education program in another state or jurisdiction may apply for licensure under this section if the dental therapy education program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, or its successor organization.

(b) The board shall determine whether the training and education of an applicant described in this subsection is sufficient to meet the requirements of subsection (1) of this section.

(3) If an applicant holds a current or expired authorization to practice dental therapy issued by another state, the federal government or a tribal authority, the applicant shall include with the application a copy of the authorization and an affidavit from the dental regulatory body of the other jurisdiction that demonstrates the applicant was authorized to practice dental therapy in that jurisdiction.

SECTION 3a. Section 3 of this 2021 Act is amended to read:

Sec. 3. (1) The Oregon Board of Dentistry shall issue a license to practice dental therapy to an applicant who:

- (a) Is at least 18 years of age;
- (b) Submits to the board a completed application form;
- (c) Demonstrates:

(A) The completion of a dental therapy education program that is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, or its successor organization, and approved by the board by rule; or

(B) That the applicant is or was a participant in a dental pilot project;

- (d) Passes an examination described in section 4 of this 2021 Act; and
- (e) Pays the application and licensure fees established by the board.

(2)(a) An individual who completed a dental therapy education program in another state or jurisdiction may apply for licensure under this section if the dental therapy education program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, or its successor organization.

(b) The board shall determine whether the training and education of an applicant described in this subsection is sufficient to meet the requirements of subsection (1) of this section.

(3) If an applicant holds a current or expired authorization to practice dental therapy issued by another state, the federal government or a tribal authority, the applicant shall include with the application a copy of the authorization and an affidavit from the dental regulatory body of the other jurisdiction that demonstrates the applicant was authorized to practice dental therapy in that jurisdiction.

SECTION 4. (1)(a) **The Oregon Board of Dentistry may require an applicant for a license to practice dental therapy to pass written, laboratory or clinical examinations to test the professional knowledge and skills of the applicant.**

(b) The examinations may not be affiliated with or administered by a dental pilot project or a dental therapy education program described in section 3 of this 2021 Act.

(c) The examinations must:

(A) Be elementary and practical in character, and sufficiently thorough to test the fitness of the applicant to practice dental therapy;

(B) Be written in English; and

(C) Include questions on subjects pertaining to dental therapy.

(2) If a test or examination was taken within five years of the date of application and the applicant received a passing score on the test or examination, as established by the board by rule, the board:

(a) To satisfy the written examination authorized under this section, may accept the results of national standardized examinations.

(b) To satisfy the laboratory or clinical examination authorized under this section:

(A) Shall accept the results of regional and national testing agencies or clinical board examinations administered by other states; and

(B) May accept the results of board-recognized testing agencies.

(3) The board shall accept the results of regional and national testing agencies or of clinical board examinations administered by other states, and may accept results of board-recognized testing agencies, in satisfaction of the examinations authorized under this section for applicants who have engaged in the active practice of dental therapy in Oregon, another state, the Armed Forces of the United States, the United States Public Health Service or the United States Department of Veterans Affairs for a period of at least 3,500 hours in the five years immediately preceding application and who meet all other requirements for licensure.

(4) The board shall establish rules related to reexamination for an applicant who fails an examination.

SECTION 5. **The Oregon Board of Dentistry may refuse to issue or renew a license to practice dental therapy if the applicant or licensee:**

(1) Subject to ORS 670.280, has been convicted of a violation of the law. A certified copy of the record of conviction is conclusive evidence of conviction.

(2) Has been disciplined by a state licensing or regulatory agency of this state or another state regarding a health care profession if, in the judgment of the board, the acts or conduct resulting in the disciplinary action bears a demonstrable relationship to the ability of the applicant or licensee to practice dental therapy in accordance with sections 2 to 12 of this 2021 Act. A certified copy of the disciplinary action is conclusive evidence of the disciplinary action.

(3) Has falsified an application for issuance or renewal of licensure.

(4) Has violated any provision of sections 2 to 12 of this 2021 Act or a rule adopted under sections 2 to 12 of this 2021 Act.

SECTION 6. (1) A person may not practice dental therapy or assume or use any title, words or abbreviations, including the title or designation “dental therapist,” that indicate that the person is authorized to practice dental therapy unless the person is licensed under section 3 of this 2021 Act.

(2) Subsection (1) of this section does not prohibit:

(a) The practice of dental therapy by a health care provider performing services within the health care provider’s authorized scope of practice.

(b) The practice of dental therapy in the discharge of official duties on behalf of the United States government, including but not limited to the Armed Forces of the United States, the United States Coast Guard, the United States Public Health Service, the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs or the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

(c) The practice of dental therapy pursuant to an educational program described in section 3 of this 2021 Act.

(d) A dental therapist authorized to practice in another state or jurisdiction from making a clinical presentation sponsored by a bona fide dental or dental therapy association or society or an accredited dental or dental therapy education program approved by the Oregon Board of Dentistry.

(e) Bona fide students of dental therapy from engaging in clinical studies during the period of their enrollment and as a part of the course of study in a dental therapy education program described in section 3 (1) of this 2021 Act. The clinical studies may be conducted on the premises of the program or in a clinical setting located off the premises. The facility, instructional staff and course of study at an off-premises location must meet minimum requirements established by the board by rule. The clinical studies at the off-premises location must be performed under the indirect supervision of a member of the program faculty.

(f) Bona fide full-time students of dental therapy, during the period of their enrollment and as a part of the course of study in a dental therapy education program located outside of Oregon that is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association or its successor agency, from engaging in community-based or clinical studies as an elective or required rotation in a clinical setting located in Oregon, if the community-based or clinical studies meet minimum requirements established by the board by rule and are performed under the indirect supervision of a member of the faculty of the Oregon Health and Science University School of Dentistry.

(g) The performance of duties by a federally certified dental health aide therapist or tribally authorized dental therapist in a clinic operated by the Indian Health Service, including, as described in 25 U.S.C. 1603, an Indian Health Service Direct Service Tribe clinic, a clinic operated under an Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975 (P.L. 93-638) contract or a clinic operated under an urban Indian organization.

SECTION 7. (1) The Oregon Board of Dentistry may impose nonrefundable fees for the following:

(a) Application for licensure;

(b) Examinations;

- (c) Biennial dental therapy licenses, both active and inactive;
- (d) Licensure renewal fees;
- (e) Permits; and
- (f) Delinquency.

(2) Subject to prior approval of the Oregon Department of Administrative Services and a report to the Emergency Board prior to adopting fees and charges, the fees and charges established under sections 2 to 12 of this 2021 Act may not exceed the cost of administering sections 2 to 12 of this 2021 Act as authorized by the Legislative Assembly within the Oregon Board of Dentistry budget and as modified by the Emergency Board.

(3)(a) The Oregon Board of Dentistry may waive a license fee for a licensee who provides to the board satisfactory evidence that the licensee has discontinued the practice of dental therapy because of retirement.

(b) A licensee described in this subsection may apply to the board for reinstatement of the license pursuant to rules adopted by the board. An application under this paragraph must include a fee. If the licensee has been retired or inactive for more than one year from the date of application, the licensee shall include with the application satisfactory evidence of clinical competence, as determined by the board.

(4)(a) A license to practice dental therapy is valid for two years and may be renewed. A licensee shall submit to the board an application for renewal and payment of the fee.

(b) A dental therapist issued a license in an even-numbered year must apply for renewal by September 30 of each even-numbered year thereafter. A dental therapist issued a license in an odd-numbered year must apply for renewal by September 30 of each odd-numbered year thereafter.

(c) The board may charge a reasonable fee if the application for renewal or the fee is submitted more than 10 days delinquent.

(5) A dental therapist shall inform the board of a change of the dental therapist's address within 30 days of the change.

SECTION 8. (1) A dental therapist may practice dental therapy only under the supervision of a dentist and pursuant to a collaborative agreement with the dentist that outlines the supervision logistics and requirements for the dental therapist's practice. The collaborative agreement must include at least the following information:

(a) The level of supervision required for each procedure performed by the dental therapist;

(b) Circumstances under which the prior knowledge and consent of the dentist is required to allow the dental therapist to provide a certain service or perform a certain procedure;

(c) The practice settings in which the dental therapist may provide care;

(d) Any limitation on the care the dental therapist may provide;

(e) Patient age-specific and procedure-specific practice protocols, including case selection criteria, assessment guidelines and imaging frequency;

(f) Procedures for creating and maintaining dental records for patients treated by the dental therapist;

(g) Guidelines for the management of medical emergencies in each of the practice settings in which the dental therapist provides care;

(h) A quality assurance plan for monitoring care provided by the dental therapist, including chart review, patient care review and referral follow-up;

(i) Protocols for the dispensation and administration of drugs, as described in section 9 of this 2021 Act, by the dental therapist, including circumstances under which the dental therapist may dispense and administer drugs;

(j) Criteria for the provision of care to patients with specific medical conditions or complex medical histories, including any requirements for consultation with the dentist prior to the provision of care; and

(k) Protocols for when a patient requires treatment outside the dental therapist's scope of practice, including for referral of the patient for evaluation and treatment by the dentist, a physician licensed under ORS chapter 677, a nurse practitioner licensed under ORS 678.375 to 678.390 or other licensed health care provider.

(2) In addition to the information described in subsection (1) of this section, a collaborative agreement must include a provision that requires the dental therapist to consult with a dentist if the dental therapist intends to perform an irreversible surgical procedure under general supervision on a patient who has a severe systemic disease.

(3) A dentist who enters into a collaborative agreement with a dental therapist shall:

(a) Directly provide care to a patient that is outside the scope of practice of the dental therapist or arrange for the provision of care by another dentist; and

(b) Ensure that the dentist, or another dentist, is available to the dental therapist for timely communication during the dental therapist's provision of care to a patient.

(4) A dental therapist may perform and provide only those procedures and services authorized by the dentist and set out in the collaborative agreement, and shall maintain with the dentist an appropriate level of contact, as determined by the dentist.

(5) A dental therapist and a dentist who enter into a collaborative agreement together shall each maintain a physical copy of the collaborative agreement.

(6)(a) A dental therapist may enter into collaborative agreements with more than one dentist if each collaborative agreement includes the same supervision requirements and scope of practice.

(b) A dentist may supervise and enter into collaborative agreements with up to three dental therapists at any one time.

(7)(a) A collaborative agreement must be signed by the dentist and dental therapist.

(b) A dental therapist shall annually submit a signed copy of the collaborative agreement to the Oregon Board of Dentistry. If the collaborative agreement is revised in between annual submissions, a signed copy of the revised collaborative agreement must be submitted to the board as soon as practicable after the revision is made.

SECTION 9. (1) A dental therapist may perform, pursuant to the dental therapist's collaborative agreement, the following procedures under the general supervision of the dentist:

(a) Identification of conditions requiring evaluation, diagnosis or treatment by a dentist, a physician licensed under ORS chapter 677, a nurse practitioner licensed under ORS 678.375 to 678.390 or other licensed health care provider;

(b) Comprehensive charting of the oral cavity;

(c) Oral health instruction and disease prevention education, including nutritional counseling and dietary analysis;

(d) Exposing and evaluation of radiographic images;

(e) Dental prophylaxis, including subgingival scaling and polishing procedures;

(f) Application of topical preventive or prophylactic agents, including fluoride varnishes and pit and fissure sealants;

(g) Administering local anesthetic;

(h) Pulp vitality testing;

(i) Application of desensitizing medication or resin;

(j) Fabrication of athletic mouth guards;

(k) Changing of periodontal dressings;

(L) Simple extractions of erupted primary anterior teeth and coronal remnants of any primary teeth;

(m) Emergency palliative treatment of dental pain;

(n) Preparation and placement of direct restoration in primary and permanent teeth;

(o) Fabrication and placement of single-tooth temporary crowns;

(p) Preparation and placement of preformed crowns on primary teeth;

- (q) Indirect pulp capping on permanent teeth;
 - (r) Indirect pulp capping on primary teeth;
 - (s) Suture removal;
 - (t) Minor adjustments and repairs of removable prosthetic devices;
 - (u) Atraumatic restorative therapy and interim restorative therapy;
 - (v) Oral examination, evaluation and diagnosis of conditions within the supervising dentist's authorization;
 - (w) Removal of space maintainers;
 - (x) The dispensation and oral or topical administration of:
 - (A) Nonnarcotic analgesics;
 - (B) Anti-inflammatories; and
 - (C) Antibiotics; and
 - (y) Other services as specified by the Oregon Board of Dentistry by rule.
- (2) A dental therapist may perform, pursuant to the dental therapist's collaborative agreement, the following procedures under the indirect supervision of the dentist:
- (a) Placement of temporary restorations;
 - (b) Fabrication of soft occlusal guards;
 - (c) Tissue reconditioning and soft reline;
 - (d) Tooth reimplantation and stabilization;
 - (e) Recementing of permanent crowns;
 - (f) Pulpotomies on primary teeth;
 - (g) Simple extractions of:
 - (A) Erupted posterior primary teeth; and
 - (B) Permanent teeth that have horizontal movement of greater than two millimeters or vertical movement and that have at least 50 percent periodontal bone loss;
 - (h) Brush biopsies; and
 - (i) Direct pulp capping on permanent teeth.

(3) The dentist described in subsection (2) of this section shall review a procedure described in subsection (2) of this section that is performed by the dental therapist and the patient chart that contains information regarding the procedure.

(4)(a) A dental therapist may supervise a dental assistant and an expanded function dental assistant, as defined by the board by rule, if the dental therapist is authorized to perform the services provided by the dental assistant or expanded function dental assistant.

(b) A dental therapist may supervise up to two individuals under this subsection.

SECTION 10. (1) A dental therapist may perform the procedures listed in section 9 of this 2021 Act so long as the procedures are included in an education program described in section 3 (1) of this 2021 Act or the dental therapist has received additional training in the procedure approved by the Oregon Board of Dentistry.

(2) A dental therapist shall purchase and maintain liability insurance as determined sufficient by the board.

(3) A dental therapist shall dedicate at least 51 percent of the dental therapist's practice to patients who represent underserved populations, as defined by the Oregon Health Authority by rule, or patients located in dental care health professional shortage areas, as determined by the authority.

SECTION 11. A person licensed under section 3 of this 2021 Act is subject to the provisions of ORS 679.140.

SECTION 12. The Oregon Board of Dentistry shall adopt rules necessary to administer sections 2 to 12 of this 2021 Act. In adopting rules under this section, the board shall consult with dental therapists and organizations that represent dental therapists in this state.

SECTION 13. ORS 679.010 is amended to read:

679.010. As used in this chapter and ORS 680.010 to 680.205, unless the context requires otherwise:

(1) “Dental assistant” means a person who, under the supervision of a dentist **or dental therapist**, renders assistance to a dentist, **dental therapist**, dental hygienist, dental technician or another dental assistant or who, under the supervision of a dental hygienist, renders assistance to a dental hygienist providing dental hygiene.

(2) “Dental hygiene” is that portion of dentistry that includes, but is not limited to:

(a) The rendering of educational, preventive and therapeutic dental services and diagnosis and treatment planning for such services;

(b) Prediagnostic risk assessment, scaling, root planing, curettage, the application of sealants and fluoride and any related intraoral or extraoral procedure required in the performance of such services; and

(c) Prescribing, dispensing and administering prescription drugs for the services described in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection.

(3) “Dental hygienist” means a person who, under the supervision of a dentist, practices dental hygiene.

(4) “Dental technician” means a person who, at the authorization of a dentist, makes, provides, repairs or alters oral prosthetic appliances and other artificial materials and devices that are returned to a dentist and inserted into the human oral cavity or that come in contact with its adjacent structures and tissues.

(5) **“Dental therapist” means a person licensed to practice dental therapy under section 3 of this 2021 Act.**

(6) **“Dental therapy” means the provision of preventive dental care, restorative dental treatment and other educational, clinical and therapeutic patient services as part of a dental care team, including the services described under section 9 of this 2021 Act.**

[(5)] (7) “Dentist” means a person who may perform any intraoral or extraoral procedure required in the practice of dentistry.

[(6)] (8) “Dentist of record” means a dentist that either authorizes treatment for, supervises treatment of or provides treatment for a patient in a dental office or clinic owned or operated by an institution as described in ORS 679.020 (3).

[(7)(a)] (9)(a) “Dentistry” means the healing art concerned with:

(A) The examination, diagnosis, treatment planning, treatment, care and prevention of conditions within the human oral cavity and maxillofacial region, and of conditions of adjacent or related tissues and structures; and

(B) The prescribing, dispensing and administering of prescription drugs for purposes related to the activities described in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph.

(b) “Dentistry” includes, but is not limited to:

(A) The cutting, altering, repairing, removing, replacing or repositioning of hard or soft tissues and other acts or procedures as determined by the Oregon Board of Dentistry and included in the curricula of:

(i) Dental schools accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association;

(ii) Post-graduate training programs; or

(iii) Continuing education courses.

(B) The prescription and administration of vaccines.

[(8)] (10) “Direct supervision” means supervision requiring that a dentist diagnose the condition to be treated, that a dentist authorize the procedure to be performed, and that a dentist remain in the dental treatment room while the procedures are performed.

[(9)] (11) “Expanded practice dental hygienist” means a dental hygienist who performs dental hygiene services in accordance with ORS 680.205 as authorized by an expanded practice dental hygienist permit issued by the board under ORS 680.200.

[(10)] (12) “General supervision” means supervision requiring that a dentist authorize the procedures by standing orders, practice agreements or collaboration agreements, but not requiring that

a dentist be present when the authorized procedures are performed. The authorized procedures may also be performed at a place other than the usual place of practice of the dentist.

[(11)] (13) "Indirect supervision" means supervision requiring that a dentist authorize the procedures and that a dentist be on the premises while the procedures are performed.

SECTION 14. ORS 679.140 is amended to read:

679.140. (1) The Oregon Board of Dentistry may discipline as provided in this section any person licensed to practice dentistry in this state for any of the following causes:

(a) Conviction of any violation of the law for which the court could impose a punishment if the board makes the finding required by ORS 670.280. The record of conviction or a certified copy thereof, certified by the clerk of the court or by the judge in whose court the conviction is entered, is conclusive evidence of the conviction.

(b) Renting or lending a license or diploma of the dentist to be used as the license or diploma of another person.

(c) Unprofessional conduct.

(d) Any violation of this chapter or ORS 680.010 to 680.205, of rules adopted pursuant to this chapter or ORS 680.010 to 680.205 or of an order issued by the board.

(e) Engaging in or permitting the performance of unacceptable patient care by the dentist or by any person working under the supervision of the dentist due to a deliberate or negligent act or failure to act by the dentist, regardless of whether actual injury to the patient is established.

(f) Incapacity to practice safely.

(2) "Unprofessional conduct" as used in this chapter includes but is not limited to the following:

(a) Obtaining any fee by fraud or misrepresentation.

(b) Willfully betraying confidences involved in the patient-dentist relationship.

(c) Employing, aiding, abetting or permitting any unlicensed personnel to practice dentistry [or], dental hygiene **or dental therapy**.

(d) Making use of any advertising statements of a character tending to deceive or mislead the public or that are untruthful.

(e) Impairment as defined in ORS 676.303.

(f) Obtaining or attempting to obtain a controlled substance in any manner proscribed by the rules of the board.

(g) Prescribing or dispensing drugs outside the scope of the practice of dentistry or in a manner that impairs the health and safety of an individual.

(h) Disciplinary action by a state licensing or regulatory agency of this or another state regarding a license to practice dentistry, dental hygiene, **dental therapy** or any other health care profession when, in the judgment of the board, the act or conduct resulting in the disciplinary action bears a demonstrable relationship to the ability of the licensee or applicant to practice dentistry [or], dental hygiene **or dental therapy** in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. A certified copy of the record of the disciplinary action is conclusive evidence of the disciplinary action.

(3) The proceedings under this section may be taken by the board from the matters within its knowledge or may be taken upon the information of another, but if the informant is a member of the board, the other members of the board shall constitute the board for the purpose of finding judgment of the accused.

(4) In determining what constitutes unacceptable patient care, the board may take into account all relevant factors and practices, including but not limited to the practices generally and currently followed and accepted by persons licensed to practice dentistry in this state, the current teachings at accredited dental schools, relevant technical reports published in recognized dental journals and the desirability of reasonable experimentation in the furtherance of the dental arts.

(5) In disciplining a person as authorized by subsection (1) of this section, the board may use any or all of the following methods:

(a) Suspend judgment.

(b) Place a licensee on probation.

(c) Suspend a license to practice dentistry in this state.

- (d) Revoke a license to practice dentistry in this state.
- (e) Place limitations on a license to practice dentistry in this state.
- (f) Refuse to renew a license to practice dentistry in this state.
- (g) Accept the resignation of a licensee to practice dentistry in this state.
- (h) Assess a civil penalty.
- (i) Reprimand a licensee.
- (j) Impose any other disciplinary action the board in its discretion finds proper, including assessment of the costs of the disciplinary proceedings as a civil penalty.

(6) If the board places any person upon probation as set forth in subsection (5)(b) of this section, the board may determine and may at any time modify the conditions of the probation and may include among them any reasonable condition for the purpose of protection of the public and for the purpose of the rehabilitation of the probationer or both. Upon expiration of the term of probation, further proceedings shall be abated by the board if the person holding the license furnishes the board with evidence that the person is competent to practice dentistry and has complied with the terms of probation. If the evidence fails to establish competence to the satisfaction of the board or if the evidence shows failure to comply with the terms of the probation, the board may revoke or suspend the license.

(7) If a license to practice dentistry in this state is suspended, the person holding the license may not practice during the term of suspension. Upon the expiration of the term of suspension, the license shall be reinstated by the board if the board finds, based upon evidence furnished by the person, that the person is competent to practice dentistry and has not practiced dentistry in this state during the term of suspension. If the evidence fails to establish to the satisfaction of the board that the person is competent or if any evidence shows the person has practiced dentistry in this state during the term of suspension, the board may revoke the license after notice and hearing.

(8) Upon receipt of a complaint under this chapter or ORS 680.010 to 680.205, the board shall conduct an investigation as described under ORS 676.165.

(9) Information that the board obtains as part of an investigation into licensee or applicant conduct or as part of a contested case proceeding, consent order or stipulated agreement involving licensee or applicant conduct is confidential as provided under ORS 676.175. Notwithstanding ORS 676.165 to 676.180, the board may disclose confidential information regarding a licensee or an applicant to persons who may evaluate or treat the licensee or applicant for drug abuse, alcohol abuse or any other health related conditions.

(10) The board may impose against any person who violates the provisions of this chapter or ORS 680.010 to 680.205 or rules of the board a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 for each violation. Any civil penalty imposed under this section shall be imposed in the manner provided in ORS 183.745.

(11) Notwithstanding the expiration, suspension, revocation or surrender of the license, or the resignation or retirement of the licensee, the board may:

(a) Proceed with any investigation of, or any action or disciplinary proceedings against, the dentist [*or*], dental hygienist **or dental therapist**; or

(b) Revise or render void an order suspending or revoking the license.

(12)(a) The board may continue with any proceeding or investigation for a period not to exceed four years from the date of the expiration, suspension, revocation or surrender of the license, or the resignation or retirement of the licensee; or

(b) If the board receives a complaint or initiates an investigation within that four-year period, the board's jurisdiction continues until the matter is concluded by a final order of the board following any appeal.

(13) Withdrawing the application for license does not close any investigation, action or proceeding against an applicant.

SECTION 15. ORS 679.170 is amended to read:
679.170. [*No person shall*] **A person may not:**

(1) Sell or barter, or offer to sell or barter, any diploma or document conferring or purporting to confer any dental degree, or any certificate or transcript made or purporting to be made, pursuant to the laws regulating the license and registration of dentists.

(2) Purchase or procure by barter, any [such] diploma, certificate or transcript **described in subsection (1) of this section**, with intent that it be used as evidence of the holder's qualification to practice dentistry, or in fraud of the laws regulating [such] **the practice of dentistry**.

(3) With fraudulent intent, alter in a material regard any [such] diploma, certificate or transcript **described in subsection (1) of this section**.

(4) Use or attempt to use any [such] diploma, certificate or transcript **described in subsection (1) of this section**, which has been purchased, fraudulently issued, counterfeited or materially altered, either as a license or color of license to practice dentistry, or in order to procure registration as a dentist.

(5) Willfully make a false written or recorded oral statement to the Oregon Board of Dentistry in a material regard.

(6) Within 10 days after demand made by the board, fail to respond to the board's written request for information or fail to furnish to the board the name and address of all persons practicing or assisting in the practice of dentistry in the office of such person at any time within 60 days prior to the notice, together with a sworn statement showing under and by what license or authority such person and employee are and have been practicing dentistry.

(7) Employ or use the services of any unlicensed person, to practice dentistry [or], dental hygiene **or dental therapy**, except as permitted by ORS 679.025, 679.176 and 680.010 to 680.205.

SECTION 16. ORS 679.250 is amended to read:

679.250. The powers and duties of the Oregon Board of Dentistry are as follows:

(1) To, during the month of April of each year, organize and elect from its membership a president who shall hold office for one year, or until the election and qualification of a successor.

(2) To authorize all necessary disbursements to carry out the provisions of this chapter, including but not limited to, payment for necessary supplies, office equipment, books and expenses for the conduct of examinations, payment for legal and investigative services rendered to the board, and such other expenditures as are provided for in this chapter.

(3) To employ such inspectors, examiners, special agents, investigators, clerical assistants, assistants and accountants as are necessary for the investigation and prosecution of alleged violations and the enforcement of this chapter and for such other purposes as the board may require. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent assistance being rendered by an employee of the board in any hearing called by it. However, all obligations for salaries and expenses incurred under this chapter shall be paid from the fees accruing to the board under this chapter and not otherwise.

(4)(a) To conduct examinations of applicants for license to practice dentistry [and], dental hygiene **and dental therapy** at least twice in each year.

(b) In conducting examinations for licensure, the board may enter into a compact with other states for conducting regional examinations with other board of dental examiners concerned, or by a testing service recognized by such boards.

(5) To meet for the transaction of other business at the call of the president. A majority of board members shall constitute a quorum. A majority vote of those present shall be a decision of the entire board. The board's proceedings shall be open to public inspection in all matters affecting public interest.

(6) To keep an accurate record of all proceedings of the board and of all its meetings, of all receipts and disbursements, of all prosecutions for violation of this chapter, of all examinations for license to practice dentistry, with the names and qualifications for examination of any person examined, together with the addresses of those licensed and the results of such examinations, a record of the names of all persons licensed to practice dentistry in Oregon together with the addresses of all such persons having paid the license fee prescribed in ORS 679.120 and the names of all persons whose license to practice has been revoked or suspended.

(7) To make and enforce rules necessary for the procedure of the board, for the conduct of examinations, for regulating the practice of dentistry, and for regulating the services of dental hygienists and dental auxiliary personnel not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter. As part of such rules, the board may require the procurement of a permit or other certificate. Any permit issued may be subject to periodic renewal. In adopting rules, the board shall take into account all relevant factors germane to an orderly and fair administration of this chapter and of ORS 680.010 to 680.205, the practices and materials generally and currently used and accepted by persons licensed to practice dentistry in this state, dental techniques commonly in use, relevant technical reports published in recognized dental journals, the curriculum at accredited dental schools, the desirability of reasonable experimentation in the furtherance of the dental arts, and the desirability of providing the highest standard of dental care to the public consistent with the lowest economic cost.

(8) Upon its own motion or upon any complaint, to initiate and conduct investigations of and hearings on all matters relating to the practice of dentistry, the discipline of licensees, or pertaining to the enforcement of any provision of this chapter. In the conduct of investigations or upon the hearing of any matter of which the board may have jurisdiction, the board may take evidence, administer oaths, take the depositions of witnesses, including the person charged, in the manner provided by law in civil cases, and compel their appearance before it in person the same as in civil cases, by subpoena issued over the signature of an employee of the board and in the name of the people of the State of Oregon, require answers to interrogatories, and compel the production of books, papers, accounts, documents and testimony pertaining to the matter under investigation or to the hearing. In all investigations and hearings, the board and any person affected thereby may have the benefit of counsel, and all hearings shall be held in compliance with ORS chapter 183. Notwithstanding ORS 676.165, 676.175 and 679.320, if a licensee who is the subject of an investigation or complaint is to appear before members of the board investigating the complaint, the board shall provide the licensee with a current summary of the complaint or the matter being investigated not less than five days prior to the date that the licensee is to appear. At the time the summary of the complaint or the matter being investigated is provided, the board shall provide to the licensee a current summary of documents or alleged facts that the board has acquired as a result of the investigation. The name of the complainant or other information that reasonably may be used to identify the complainant may be withheld from the licensee.

(9) To require evidence as determined by rule of continuing education or to require satisfactory evidence of operative competency before reissuing or renewing licenses for the practice of dentistry [or], dental hygiene **or dental therapy**.

(10) To adopt and enforce rules regulating administration of general anesthesia and conscious sedation by a dentist or under the supervision of a dentist in the office of the dentist. As part of such rules, the board may require the procurement of a permit which must be periodically renewed.

(11) To order an applicant or licensee to submit to a physical examination, mental examination or a competency examination when the board has evidence indicating the incapacity of the applicant or licensee to practice safely.

SECTION 17. Section 1, chapter 716, Oregon Laws 2011, is amended to read:

Sec. 1. (1) The Oregon Health Authority may approve pilot projects to encourage the development of innovative practices in oral health care delivery systems with a focus on providing care to populations that evidence-based studies have shown have the highest disease rates and the least access to dental care. The authority may approve a pilot project that is designed to:

(a) Operate for three to five years or a sufficient amount of time to evaluate the validity of the pilot project;

(b) Evaluate quality of care, access, cost, workforce and efficacy; and

(c) Achieve at least one of the following:

(A) Teach new skills to existing categories of dental personnel;

(B) Develop new categories of dental personnel;

(C) Accelerate the training of existing categories of dental personnel; or

- (D) Teach new oral health care roles to previously untrained persons.
- (2) The authority shall adopt rules:
 - (a) Establishing an application process for pilot projects;
 - (b) Establishing minimum standards, guidelines and instructions for pilot projects; and
 - (c) Requiring an approved pilot project to report to the authority on the progress and outcomes of the pilot project, including:
 - (A) The process used to evaluate the progress and outcomes of the pilot project;
 - (B) The baseline data and information to be collected;
 - (C) The nature of program data that will be collected and the methods for collecting and analyzing the data;
 - (D) The provisions for protecting the safety of patients seen or treated in the project; and
 - (E) A statement of previous experience in providing related health care services.
- (3) The authority shall seek the advice of appropriate professional societies and licensing boards before adopting rules under subsection (2) of this section.
- (4)(a) Notwithstanding ORS 679.020 and 680.020, a person may practice dentistry *[or]*, dental hygiene **or dental therapy** without a license as part of a pilot project approved under this section under the general supervision of a dentist licensed under ORS chapter 679 and in accordance with rules adopted by the authority.
 - (b) A person practicing dentistry *[or]*, dental hygiene **or dental therapy** without a license under this section is subject to the same standard of care and is entitled to the same immunities as a person performing the services with a license.
- (5) The authority may accept gifts, grants or contributions from any public or private source for the purpose of carrying out this section. Funds received under this subsection shall be deposited in the Dental Pilot Projects Fund established under section 17 *[of this 2011 Act]*, **chapter 716, Oregon Laws 2011**.

SECTION 18. (1) Sections 2, 3 and 4 to 12 of this 2021 Act and the amendments to ORS 679.010, 679.140, 679.170 and 679.250 and section 1, chapter 716, Oregon Laws 2011, by sections 13 to 17 of this 2021 Act become operative on January 1, 2022.

(2) The amendments to section 3 of this 2021 Act by section 3a of this 2021 Act become operative on January 1, 2025.

(3) The Oregon Board of Dentistry may take any action before the operative dates specified in subsections (1) and (2) of this section that is necessary to enable the board to exercise, on and after the operative dates specified in subsections (1) and (2) of this section, all of the duties, functions and powers conferred on the board by sections 2, 3 and 4 to 12 of this 2021 Act and the amendments to ORS 679.010, 679.140, 679.170 and 679.250 and section 1, chapter 716, Oregon Laws 2011, and section 3 of this 2021 Act by sections 3a and 13 to 17 of this 2021 Act.

SECTION 19. This 2021 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2021 regular session of the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.

Passed by House April 27, 2021

Repassed by House June 23, 2021

.....
Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

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Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Passed by Senate June 22, 2021

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Received by Governor:

.....M.,....., 2021

Approved:

.....M.,....., 2021

.....
Kate Brown, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M.,....., 2021

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Shemia Fagan, Secretary of State