

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SHB 1740

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**C 327 L 09**  
Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Regarding the issuance of licenses to practice dentistry.

**Sponsors:** House Committee on Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Cody and Hinkle).

**House Committee on Health Care & Wellness**  
**Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care**

### **Background:**

Dentists are licensed and disciplined by the Dental Quality Assurance Commission (DQAC). In order to be licensed, a dentist must:

- submit proof of graduation from a dental college, school, or dental department of an institution approved by the DQAC;
- submit a recent picture; and
- pass an examination.

A dentist may forego the examination requirement if he or she completes a post-doctoral dental residency program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association (Commission) and the DQAC. The residency must:

- last from one to three years;
- be located in a community health clinic that serves predominantly low-income patients or that is located in a dental care health professional shortage area; and
- include an outcome assessment evaluation that assesses the resident's competence to practice dentistry.

The DQAC may issue a limited license to practice dentistry for a person to participate in the post-doctoral residency program. The license may only permit the dentist to provide dental care in connection with his or her duties in the program.

### **Summary:**

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

The DQAC may issue a limited license to practice dentistry for post-doctoral students in dental education and post-doctoral residents in any dental residency program approved by the DQAC.

Prior to July 1, 2010, the DQAC may approve a program only if it is either accredited by the Commission or in the process of obtaining such accreditation. On or after July 1, 2010, the DQAC may approve a program only if it is accredited by the Commission.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

House	95	0	
Senate	45	0	(Senate amended)
House	91	0	(House concurred)

**Effective:** May 4, 2009