

ANALYSIS OF HOUSE BILL 1699

Establishing continuing education for dentists.

SPONSORS: Representative Barlett and Cody.

BACKGROUND: The practice of dentistry is licensed by the Department of Health and no person may practice or refer to himself or herself as a dentist without being licensed. The Dental Quality Assurance Commission qualifies applicants for licensure and acts as the disciplinary authority for unprofessional conduct under the Uniform Disciplinary Act.

Continuing education is a method of staying current with new developments in science and technology by taking approved courses or learning opportunities related to a field of expertise. A number of the regulated health professions require continuing education as a condition for the renewal of licenses.

The dental commission does not have authority to establish a program of continuing dental education.

SUMMARY: The Dental Quality Assurance Commission is authorized to establish continuing dental education program for applicants renewing their dental licenses.

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