
HOUSE BILL 1699

State of Washington 56th Legislature 1999 Regular Session

By Representatives Parlette, Cody, Schoesler, Barlean, Esser, Edmonds and Van Luven

Read first time 02/03/1999. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to continuing education for dentists; and amending
2 RCW 18.32.002, 18.32.0357, and 18.32.180.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.32.002 and 1994 sp.s. c 9 s 201 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 The legislature finds that the health and well-being of the people
7 of this state are of paramount importance.

8 The legislature further finds that the conduct of members of the
9 dental profession licensed to practice dentistry in this state plays a
10 vital role in preserving the health and well-being of the people of the
11 state.

12 The legislature further finds that requiring continuing dental
13 education for all licensed dentists in the state is an important
14 component of providing high quality dentistry for the people of this
15 state.

16 The legislature further finds that there is no effective means of
17 handling disciplinary proceedings against members of the dental
18 profession licensed in this state when such proceedings are necessary
19 for the protection of the public health.

1 Therefore, the legislature declares its intention to exercise the
2 police power of the state to protect the public health, to promote the
3 welfare of the state, and to provide a commission to act as a
4 disciplinary and regulatory body for the members of the dental
5 profession licensed to practice dentistry in this state.

6 It is the purpose of the commission established in RCW 18.32.0351
7 to regulate the competency and quality of professional health care
8 providers under its jurisdiction by establishing, monitoring, and
9 enforcing qualifications for licensure, continuing education,
10 consistent standards of practice, continuing competency mechanisms, and
11 discipline. Rules, policies, and procedures developed by the
12 commission must promote the delivery of quality health care to the
13 residents of the state.

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.32.0357 and 1994 sp.s. c 9 s 207 are each amended
15 to read as follows:

16 The commission shall elect officers each year. Meetings of the
17 commission are open to the public, except the commission may hold
18 executive sessions to the extent permitted by chapter 42.30 RCW. The
19 secretary of health shall furnish such secretarial, clerical, and other
20 assistance as the commission may require.

21 A majority of the commission members appointed and serving
22 constitutes a quorum for the transaction of commission business. The
23 affirmative vote of a majority of a quorum of the commission is
24 required to carry a motion or resolution, to adopt a rule, or to pass
25 a measure.

26 The commission may appoint members of panels consisting of not less
27 than three members. A quorum for transaction of any business shall be
28 a minimum of three members. A majority vote of a quorum of the panel
29 is required to transact business delegated to it by the commission.

30 The members of the commission are immune from suit in an action,
31 civil or criminal, based upon its disciplinary proceedings or other
32 official acts performed in good faith as members of the commission.

33 The commission may, whenever the workload of the commission
34 requires, request that the secretary appoint pro tempore members.
35 While serving as members pro tempore persons have all the powers,
36 duties, and immunities, and are entitled to the emoluments, including
37 travel expenses, of the commission.

1 The commission shall prepare or determine the nature of the
2 examinations for applicants to practice dentistry.

3 The commission shall establish continuing dental education
4 requirements.

5 The attorney general shall advise the commission and represent it
6 in all legal proceedings.

7 **Sec. 3.** RCW 18.32.180 and 1996 c 191 s 16 are each amended to read
8 as follows:

9 Every person licensed to practice dentistry in this state shall
10 renew his or her license and comply with administrative procedures,
11 administrative requirements, continuing education requirements, and
12 fees as provided in RCW 43.70.250 and 43.70.280. The commission, in
13 its sole discretion, may permit the applicant to be licensed without
14 examination, and with or without conditions, if it is satisfied that
15 the applicant meets all the requirements for licensure in this state
16 and is competent to engage in the practice of dentistry.

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