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**Health Care Committee**

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**HB 1493**

**Brief Description:** Clarifying the scope of practice of a dental hygienist.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Campbell, Cody and Skinner.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Adds the placement of antimicrobials and antibiotics to the licensed dental hygienists' scope of practice.

**Hearing Date:** 2/11/03

**Staff:** Chris Blake (786-7392).

**Background:**

Dental hygienists are regulated by the Secretary of Health. They may perform dental services and operations under the supervision of a dentist including removing deposits and stains from the surfaces of teeth, applying topical preventative agents, and polishing and smoothing restorations. With an endorsement from the Department of Health, dental hygienists may apply sealants and fluoride varnishes in community-based sealant programs.

**Summary of Bill:**

Licensed dental hygienists may apply antimicrobials and antibiotics in addition to the other services that they are authorized to provide.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not Requested.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.