

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SSB 5327

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C 257 L 03  
Synopsis as Enacted

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

**Sponsors:** Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care (originally sponsored by Senators Deccio, Thibaudeau and Parlette).

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

**Background:** Dental hygienists licensed in Washington may remove deposits and stains from the surfaces of teeth, apply topical agents, and perform other dental operations and services delegated to them by a licensed dentist.

There is concern that dental hygienists be able to continue applying antimicrobials, a practice not specified in their scope of practice.

**Summary:** Dental hygienists may apply antimicrobials, which are prescription drugs, under the authority of a dentist.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

|        |    |   |                    |
|--------|----|---|--------------------|
| Senate | 49 | 0 |                    |
| House  | 95 | 0 | (House amended)    |
| Senate | 42 | 0 | (Senate concurred) |

**Effective:** July 27, 2003