FINAL BILL REPORT SHB 1270

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Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Making the board of denturists the disciplining authority for licensed denturists.

Sponsors: House Committee on Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Morrell, Schmick, Green, Harris, Cody and Ryu).

House Committee on Health Care & Wellness Senate Committee on Health Care

Background:

Licensed denturists are authorized to:

- make, place, construct, alter, reproduce, or repair a denture; and
- take impressions and furnish or supply a denture directly to a person or advise the use of a denture, and maintain a facility for the same.

To be licensed, a denturist must either:

- graduate from an approved educational program and pass an examination; or
- be licensed in another state and provide proof of passage of an examination.

The Board of Denturists (BOD) consists of seven members: four licensed denturists, two persons who are not affiliated with any health profession at least one of whom must be over the age of 65, and one licensed dentist. The BOD's duties include:

- determining the qualifications of applicants:
- prescribing, administering, and determining the requirements for examinations;
- adopting rules:
- providing requirements for continuing competency; and
- evaluating and approving schools from which graduation is acceptable proof of an applicant's fulfillment of the required coursework for licensure.

The Secretary of Health is the disciplining authority for licensed denturists under the Uniform Disciplinary Act (UDA). In addition to his or her duties under the UDA, the Secretary of Health must:

• issue denturist licenses;

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- determine whether military experience is substantially equivalent to state licensing standards; and
- determine license renewal requirements.

Summary:

The BOD is made the disciplining authority for licensed denturists under the UDA. Denturist-related duties assigned to the Secretary of Health are given to the BOD, except for the issuance of licenses.

Votes on Final Passage:

House 97 0 Senate 46 0

Effective: July 28, 2013

July 1, 2016 (Section 8)