

**HB 1441-S - DIGEST**

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Addresses the provision of dental health aide therapists with regard to Indian communities.

Requires the department of health to: (1) Conduct a study on the outcomes of treatment by all dental health aide therapists authorized to practice in the state; and

(2) In preparing the study, consult with tribes, tribal organizations, and urban tribal organizations, who employ, contract, or otherwise use dental health aide therapist services.

Provides that dental health aide therapist services are eligible for medicaid funding in order to promote increased dental care access for persons served in settings operated by Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and urban Indian organizations.

Requires the state health care authority to coordinate with the centers for medicare and medicaid services to provide that dental health aide therapist services are eligible for federal funding of up to one hundred percent.