
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1678

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By House Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Riccelli, Lekanoff, Stonier, Morgan, Bateman, Macri, Ormsby, Slatter, Entenman, Ramos, Peterson, Tharinger, Chopp, Ryu, Pollet, Davis, Harris, Taylor, Simmons, Kloba, and Gregerson)

READ FIRST TIME 02/17/23.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing and authorizing the profession of
2 dental therapy to practice in federally qualified health centers and
3 look-alikes; amending RCW 18.32.030, 18.32.0351, 18.120.020,
4 18.130.040, 18.260.010, 18.260.040, 18.260.070, 18.260.080,
5 69.41.010, and 69.41.030; reenacting and amending RCW 43.70.442;
6 adding a new chapter to Title 18 RCW; creating a new section; and
7 providing an effective date.

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

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that good oral
10 health is an integral piece of overall health and well-being. Without
11 treatment, dental disease compromises overall health and requires
12 increasingly costly interventions. However, most dental disease can
13 be prevented at little cost through routine dental care and disease
14 prevention.

15 Dental-related issues are a leading reason that Washingtonians
16 seek care in hospital emergency departments, which has become the
17 source of care for many, especially uninsured and low-income
18 populations.

19 It is the intent of the legislature to expand access to oral
20 health care for all Washingtonians through an evidence-based mid-
21 level dental provider called a dental therapist. Dental therapy is a

1 strategy to address racial and ethnic disparities in health and rural
2 health care access gaps. Dental therapists are also a strategy to
3 increase workforce diversity in health care and expand career
4 opportunities for existing members of the dental care workforce such
5 as dental hygienists.

6 It is the legislature's intent that dental therapists will meet
7 the needs of local communities as they work under the direction of a
8 dentist licensed in accordance with state or federal law. The
9 legislature intends for dental therapists to be incorporated into the
10 dental care workforce and used to effectively treat more patients.

11 It is the intent of the legislature to follow the national
12 commission on dental accreditation's standards for dental therapy
13 education. This will ensure that dental therapists are trained to the
14 highest quality standards and provide state-to-state consistency. It
15 is the intent of the legislature that incorporating the commission on
16 dental accreditation's standards for dental therapy education will
17 pave the way for Washington education institutions to become
18 accredited programs and for students to qualify for financial aid.

19 It is also the intent of the legislature to provide an efficient
20 and reasonable pathway, through a limited license, for federally
21 certified dental health aide therapists or tribally licensed dental
22 therapists to become a Washington state licensed dental therapist.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The definitions in this section apply
24 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires
25 otherwise.

26 (1) "Close supervision of a dentist" means that a supervising
27 dentist:

28 (a) Has personally examined and diagnosed the patient and has
29 personally authorized the procedures to be performed;

30 (b) Is continuously on-site while the procedure in question is
31 being performed; and

32 (c) Is capable of responding immediately in the event of an
33 emergency.

34 (2) "Committee" means the dental hygiene examining committee
35 established in chapter 18.29 RCW.

36 (3) "Dental therapist" means a person licensed to practice dental
37 therapy under this chapter.

38 (4) "Dental therapy" means the services and procedures specified
39 in section 6 of this act.

1 (5) "Dentist" means a person licensed to practice dentistry under
2 chapter 18.32 RCW or exempt from such licensure pursuant to Title 25
3 U.S.C. Sec. 1621t of the Indian health care improvement act.

4 (6) "Denturist" means a person licensed to engage in the practice
5 of denturism under chapter 18.30 RCW.

6 (7) "Department" means the department of health.

7 (8) "Practice plan contract" means a document that is signed by a
8 dentist and a dental therapist and outlines the functions the dentist
9 authorizes the dental therapist to perform and the level and type of
10 dentist supervision that is required.

11 (9) "Secretary" means the secretary of health.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** No person may practice dental therapy or
13 represent himself or herself as a dental therapist without being
14 licensed by the department under this chapter. Every person licensed
15 to practice dental therapy in this state shall renew their license
16 and comply with administrative procedures, administrative
17 requirements, continuing education requirements, and fees provided in
18 RCW 43.70.250 and 43.70.280. The department shall establish by rule
19 mandatory continuing education requirements to be met by dental
20 therapists applying for license renewal.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The department shall issue a license
22 to practice as a dental therapist to any applicant who:

23 (a) Pays any applicable fees established by the secretary under
24 RCW 43.70.110 and 43.70.250;

25 (b) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section,
26 successfully completes a dental therapist program that is accredited
27 or has received initial accreditation by the American dental
28 association's commission on dental accreditation;

29 (c) Passes an examination approved by the committee; and

30 (d) Submits, on forms provided by the secretary, the applicant's
31 name, address, and other applicable information as determined by the
32 secretary.

33 (2) Applicants who successfully completed a dental therapist
34 program before September 31, 2022, that was not accredited by the
35 American dental association's commission on dental accreditation but
36 that the committee determines is substantially equivalent to an
37 accredited education program meet the criteria described in
38 subsection (1)(b) of this section if the applicant also, has proof of

1 at least 400 preceptorship hours under the close supervision of a
2 dentist.

3 (3) When considering and approving the exam under subsection
4 (1)(c) of this section, the committee must consult with tribes that
5 license dental health aide therapists and with dental therapy
6 education programs located in this state.

7 (4) The secretary in consultation with the committee must
8 establish by rule the procedures to implement this section.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** An applicant holding a valid license and
10 currently engaged in practice in another state may be granted a
11 license without examination required by this chapter, on the payment
12 of any required fees, if the secretary determines that the other
13 state's licensing standards are substantively equivalent to the
14 standards in this state: PROVIDED, That the secretary may require the
15 applicant to: (1) File with the secretary documentation certifying
16 the applicant is licensed to practice in another state; and (2)
17 provide information as the secretary deems necessary pertaining to
18 the conditions and criteria of the uniform disciplinary act, chapter
19 18.130 RCW, and to demonstrate to the secretary a knowledge of
20 Washington law pertaining to the practice of dental therapy.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** (1) Subject to the limitations in this
22 section, a licensed dental therapist may provide the following
23 services and procedures under the supervision of a licensed dentist
24 as provided under section 7 of this act and to the extent the
25 supervising dentist authorizes the service or procedure to be
26 provided by the dental therapist:

27 (a) Oral health instruction and disease prevention education,
28 including nutritional counseling and dietary analysis;

29 (b) Comprehensive charting of the oral cavity;

30 (c) Making radiographs;

31 (d) Mechanical polishing;

32 (e) Prophylaxis;

33 (f) Periodontal scaling and root planing;

34 (g) Application of topical preventative or prophylactic agents,
35 including fluoride and pit and fissure sealants;

36 (h) Pulp vitality testing;

37 (i) Application of desensitizing medication or resin;

38 (j) Fabrication of athletic mouth guards;

- 1 (k) Placement of temporary restorations;
2 (l) Fabrication of soft occlusal guards;
3 (m) Tissue conditioning and soft reline;
4 (n) Atraumatic restorative therapy and interim restorative
5 therapy;
6 (o) Dressing changes;
7 (p) Administration of local anesthetic;
8 (q) Administration of nitrous oxide;
9 (r) Emergency palliative treatment of dental pain;
10 (s) The placement and removal of space maintainers;
11 (t) Cavity preparation;
12 (u) Fabrication and restoration of primary and permanent teeth;
13 (v) Placement of temporary crowns;
14 (w) Preparation and placement of preformed crowns;
15 (x) Indirect and direct pulp capping on primary and permanent
16 teeth;
17 (y) Stabilization of reimplanted teeth;
18 (z) Extractions of primary teeth;
19 (aa) Suture placement and removal;
20 (bb) Brush biopsies;
21 (cc) Minor adjustments and repairs on removable prostheses;
22 (dd) Recementing of permanent crowns;
23 (ee) Oral evaluation and assessment of dental disease and the
24 formulation of an individualized treatment plan;
25 (ff) Identification of oral and systemic conditions requiring
26 evaluation and treatment by a dentist, physician, or other health
27 care provider, and management of referrals;
28 (gg) The supervision of expanded function dental auxiliaries and
29 dental assistants. However, a dental therapist may supervise no more
30 than a total of three expanded function dental auxiliaries and dental
31 assistants at any one time in any one practice setting. A dental
32 therapist may not supervise an expanded function dental auxiliary or
33 dental assistant with respect to tasks that the dental therapist is
34 not authorized to perform;
35 (hh) Nonsurgical extractions of erupted permanent teeth under
36 limited conditions; and
37 (ii) The dispensation and oral administration of drugs pursuant
38 to subsection (2) of this section.
39 (2)(a) A dental therapist may dispense and orally administer the
40 following drugs within the parameters of the practice plan contract

1 established in section 7 of this act: Nonnarcotic analgesics, anti-
2 inflammatories, preventive agents, and antibiotics.

3 (b) The authority to dispense and orally administer drugs extends
4 only to the drugs identified in this subsection and may be further
5 limited by the practice plan contract.

6 (c) The authority to dispense includes the authority to dispense
7 sample drugs within the categories established in this subsection if
8 the dispensing is permitted under the practice plan contract.

9 (d) A dental therapist may not dispense or administer narcotic
10 drugs as defined in chapter 69.50 RCW.

11 (e) A dental therapist does not have the authority to prescribe
12 drugs.

13 (3) A dental therapist may only provide services and procedures
14 in which they have been educated.

15 (4) A dental therapist may not provide any service or procedure
16 that is not both authorized by this section and been authorized by
17 the supervising dentist via inclusion in the dental therapist's
18 practice plan contract.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** (1) A dental therapist may only practice
20 dental therapy under the supervision of a dentist and pursuant to a
21 written practice plan contract with the supervising dentist. A dental
22 therapist may not practice independently. In circumstances authorized
23 by the supervising dentist in the written practice plan contract, a
24 dental therapist may provide services without the prior examination
25 or diagnosis of a dentist and without the dentist being personally
26 on-site when services are provided. The contract must, at a minimum,
27 contain the following elements:

28 (a) The level of supervision required and circumstances when the
29 prior knowledge and consent of the supervising dentist is required;

30 (b) Practice settings where services and procedures may be
31 provided;

32 (c) Any limitations on the services or procedures the dental
33 therapist may provide;

34 (d) Age and procedure-specific practice protocols, including case
35 selection criteria, assessment guidelines, and imaging frequency;

36 (e) Procedures for creating and maintaining dental records for
37 patients treated by the dental therapist;

38 (f) A plan to manage medical emergencies in each practice setting
39 where the dental therapist provides care;

1 (g) A quality assurance plan for monitoring care provided by the
2 dental therapist or, including patient care review, referral follow-
3 up, and a quality assurance chart review;

4 (h) Protocols for administering and dispensing medications,
5 including the specific circumstances under which the medications may
6 be dispensed and administered;

7 (i) Criteria relating to the provision of care to patients with
8 specific medical conditions or complex medical histories, including
9 requirements for consultation prior to the initiation of care; and

10 (j) Specific written protocols governing situations where the
11 dental therapist encounters a patient requiring treatment that
12 exceeds the dental therapist's scope of practice or capabilities and
13 protocols for referral of patients requiring evaluation and treatment
14 by dentists, denturists, physicians, advanced registered nurse
15 practitioners, or other health care providers.

16 (2) The dental therapist shall accept responsibility for all
17 services and procedures provided by the dental therapist or any
18 auxiliary dental providers the dental therapist is supervising
19 pursuant to the practice plan contract.

20 (3) A supervising dentist licensed under chapter 18.32 RCW who
21 knowingly permits a dental therapist to provide a service or
22 procedure that is not authorized in the practice plan contract, or
23 any dental therapist who provides a service or procedure that is not
24 authorized in the practice plan contract, commits unprofessional
25 conduct for purposes of chapter 18.130 RCW.

26 (4) A dentist who enters into a written practice plan contract
27 with a dental therapist shall:

28 (a) Directly provide or arrange for another dentist, denturist,
29 or specialist to provide any necessary advanced procedures or
30 services needed by the patient or any treatment that exceeds the
31 dental therapist's scope of practice or capabilities;

32 (b) Ensure that he or she or another dentist is available to the
33 dental therapist for timely communication during treatment if needed.

34 (5) A dental therapist shall perform only those services
35 authorized by the supervising dentist and written practice plan
36 contract and shall maintain an appropriate level of contact with the
37 supervising dentist.

38 (6) A supervising dentist may supervise no more than a total of
39 five dental therapists at any one time.

1 (7) Practice plan contracts must be signed and maintained by both
2 the supervising dentist and the dental therapist.

3 (8) A dental therapist must submit a signed copy of the practice
4 plan contract to the secretary at the time of licensure renewal. If
5 the practice plan contract is revised in between license renewal, a
6 signed copy of the revised practice plan contract must be submitted
7 as soon as practicable after the revision is made.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** Nothing in this chapter prohibits or
9 affects:

10 (1) The practice of dental therapy by an individual otherwise
11 licensed under this title and performing services within his or her
12 scope of practice;

13 (2) The practice of dental therapy in the discharge of official
14 duties on behalf of the United States government including, but not
15 limited to, the armed forces, coast guard, public health service,
16 veterans' bureau, or bureau of Indian affairs;

17 (3) The practice of dental therapy pursuant to an education
18 program described in section 4 of this act;

19 (4) The practice of dental therapy under the supervision of a
20 dentist necessary to meet the clinical experience or preceptorship
21 requirements of section 4 of this act; or

22 (5) The practice of federally certified dental health aide
23 therapists or tribally licensed dental health aide therapists as
24 authorized under chapter 70.350 RCW.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** (1) A dental therapist may practice only
26 in federally qualified health centers, tribal federally qualified
27 health centers, and federally qualified health center look-alikes.

28 (2) For purposes of this section, a "tribal federally qualified
29 health center" means a tribal facility operating in accordance with
30 Title XIX Sec. 1905(1)(2)(B) of the social security act and the
31 Indian self-determination and education assistance act (P.L. 93-638)
32 and that enrolls in Washington medicaid as a tribal federally
33 qualified health center.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** The uniform disciplinary act, chapter
35 18.130 RCW, governs the issuance and denial of licenses, unlicensed
36 practice, and the discipline of persons licensed under this chapter.

1 The dental quality assurance commission is the disciplining authority
2 under this chapter.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** (1) The department shall issue a limited
4 license to any applicant who, as determined by the secretary:

5 (a) Holds a valid license, certification, or recertification in
6 another state, Canadian province, or has been certified or licensed
7 by a federal or tribal governing board in the previous two years,
8 that allows a substantially equivalent, but not the entire scope of
9 practice in section 6 of this act;

10 (b) Is currently engaged in active practice in another state,
11 Canadian province, or tribe;

12 (c) Files with the secretary documentation certifying that the
13 applicant:

14 (i) Has graduated from a dental therapy school accredited by the
15 commission on dental accreditation or has graduated from a dental
16 therapy education program that the dental hygiene examining committee
17 determines is substantially equivalent to an accredited education
18 program; and

19 (ii) Is licensed or certified to practice in another state or
20 Canadian province, or has been certified or licensed by a federal or
21 tribal governing board in the previous two years;

22 (d) Provides such information as the secretary deems necessary
23 pertaining to the conditions and criteria of the uniform disciplinary
24 act, chapter 18.130 RCW;

25 (e) Demonstrates to the secretary knowledge of Washington state
26 law pertaining to the practice of dental therapy; and

27 (f) Pays any required fees.

28 (2) A person practicing with a limited license granted under this
29 section has the authority to perform only those dental therapy
30 procedures in section 6 of this act that he or she was licensed or
31 certified to practice in their previous state, tribe, or Canadian
32 province.

33 (3) Upon demonstration of competency in all procedures in section
34 6 of this act, the limited license holder may apply for licensure as
35 a dental therapist under section 4 of this act.

36 **Sec. 12.** RCW 18.32.030 and 2017 c 5 s 5 are each amended to read
37 as follows:

1 The following practices, acts, and operations are excepted from
2 the operation of the provisions of this chapter:

3 (1) The rendering of dental relief in emergency cases in the
4 practice of his or her profession by a physician or surgeon, licensed
5 as such and registered under the laws of this state, unless the
6 physician or surgeon undertakes to or does reproduce lost parts of
7 the human teeth in the mouth or to restore or to replace in the human
8 mouth lost or missing teeth;

9 (2) The practice of dentistry in the discharge of official duties
10 by dentists in the United States federal services on federal
11 reservations, including but not limited to the armed services, coast
12 guard, public health service, veterans' bureau, or bureau of Indian
13 affairs;

14 (3) Dental schools or colleges approved under RCW 18.32.040, and
15 the practice of dentistry by students in accredited dental schools or
16 colleges approved by the commission, when acting under the direction
17 and supervision of Washington state-licensed dental school faculty;

18 (4) The practice of dentistry by licensed dentists of other
19 states or countries while appearing as clinicians at meetings of the
20 Washington state dental association, or component parts thereof, or
21 at meetings sanctioned by them, or other groups approved by the
22 commission;

23 (5) The use of roentgen and other rays for making radiographs or
24 similar records of dental or oral tissues, under the supervision of a
25 licensed dentist or physician;

26 (6) The making, repairing, altering, or supplying of artificial
27 restorations, substitutions, appliances, or materials for the
28 correction of disease, loss, deformity, malposition, dislocation,
29 fracture, injury to the jaws, teeth, lips, gums, cheeks, palate, or
30 associated tissues or parts; providing the same are made, repaired,
31 altered, or supplied pursuant to the written instructions and order
32 of a licensed dentist which may be accompanied by casts, models, or
33 impressions furnished by the dentist, and the prescriptions shall be
34 retained and filed for a period of not less than three years and
35 shall be available to and subject to the examination of the secretary
36 or the secretary's authorized representatives;

37 (7) The removal of deposits and stains from the surfaces of the
38 teeth, the application of topical preventative or prophylactic
39 agents, and the polishing and smoothing of restorations, when

1 performed or prescribed by a dental hygienist licensed under the laws
2 of this state;

3 (8) A qualified and licensed physician and surgeon or osteopathic
4 physician and surgeon extracting teeth or performing oral surgery
5 pursuant to the scope of practice under chapter 18.71 or 18.57 RCW;

6 (9) The performing of dental operations or services by registered
7 dental assistants and licensed expanded function dental auxiliaries
8 holding a credential issued under chapter 18.260 RCW when performed
9 under the supervision of a licensed dentist, by dental therapists
10 licensed under chapter 18.--- RCW (the new chapter created in section
11 22 of this act), or by other persons not licensed under this chapter
12 if the person is licensed pursuant to chapter 18.29, 18.57, 18.71, or
13 18.79 RCW as it applies to registered nurses and advanced registered
14 nurse practitioners, each while acting within the scope of the
15 person's permitted practice under the person's license: PROVIDED
16 HOWEVER, That such persons shall in no event perform the following
17 dental operations or services unless permitted to be performed by the
18 person under this chapter or chapters 18.29, 18.57, 18.71, 18.79 as
19 it applies to registered nurses and advanced registered nurse
20 practitioners, and 18.260 RCW:

21 (a) Any removal of or addition to the hard or soft tissue of the
22 oral cavity;

23 (b) Any diagnosis of or prescription for treatment of disease,
24 pain, deformity, deficiency, injury, or physical condition of the
25 human teeth or jaws, or adjacent structure;

26 (c) Any administration of general or injected local anaesthetic
27 of any nature in connection with a dental operation, including
28 intravenous sedation;

29 (d) Any oral prophylaxis;

30 (e) The taking of any impressions of the teeth or jaw or the
31 relationships of the teeth or jaws, for the purpose of fabricating
32 any intra-oral restoration, appliance, or prosthesis;

33 (10) The performing of dental services described in RCW
34 18.350.040 by dental anesthesia assistants certified under chapter
35 18.350 RCW when working under the supervision and direction of an
36 oral and maxillofacial surgeon or dental anesthesiologist; and

37 (11) The performance of dental health aide therapist services to
38 the extent authorized under chapter 70.350 RCW.

1 **Sec. 13.** RCW 18.32.0351 and 2022 c 240 s 1 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 The Washington state dental quality assurance commission is
4 established, consisting of (~~seventeen~~) 19 members each appointed by
5 the governor to a four-year term. No member may serve more than two
6 consecutive full terms. Members of the commission hold office until
7 their successors are appointed. All members shall be appointed to
8 full four-year terms. Twelve members of the commission must be
9 dentists, two members must be dental therapists licensed under
10 chapter 18.--- RCW (the new chapter created in section 22 of this
11 act), two members must be expanded function dental auxiliaries
12 licensed under chapter 18.260 RCW, and three members must be public
13 members.

14 **Sec. 14.** RCW 18.120.020 and 2020 c 80 s 22 are each amended to
15 read as follows:

16 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter
17 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

18 (1) "Applicant group" includes any health professional group or
19 organization, any individual, or any other interested party which
20 proposes that any health professional group not presently regulated
21 be regulated or which proposes to substantially increase the scope of
22 practice of the profession.

23 (2) "Certificate" and "certification" mean a voluntary process by
24 which a statutory regulatory entity grants recognition to an
25 individual who (a) has met certain prerequisite qualifications
26 specified by that regulatory entity, and (b) may assume or use
27 "certified" in the title or designation to perform prescribed health
28 professional tasks.

29 (3) "Grandfather clause" means a provision in a regulatory
30 statute applicable to practitioners actively engaged in the regulated
31 health profession prior to the effective date of the regulatory
32 statute which exempts the practitioners from meeting the prerequisite
33 qualifications set forth in the regulatory statute to perform
34 prescribed occupational tasks.

35 (4) "Health professions" means and includes the following health
36 and health-related licensed or regulated professions and occupations:
37 Podiatric medicine and surgery under chapter 18.22 RCW; chiropractic
38 under chapter 18.25 RCW; dental hygiene under chapter 18.29 RCW;
39 dentistry under chapter 18.32 RCW; denturism under chapter 18.30 RCW;

1 dental anesthesia assistants under chapter 18.350 RCW; dispensing
2 opticians under chapter 18.34 RCW; hearing instruments under chapter
3 18.35 RCW; naturopaths under chapter 18.36A RCW; embalming and
4 funeral directing under chapter 18.39 RCW; midwifery under chapter
5 18.50 RCW; nursing home administration under chapter 18.52 RCW;
6 optometry under chapters 18.53 and 18.54 RCW; ocularists under
7 chapter 18.55 RCW; osteopathic medicine and surgery under chapter
8 18.57 RCW; pharmacy under chapters 18.64 and 18.64A RCW; medicine
9 under chapters 18.71 and 18.71A RCW; emergency medicine under chapter
10 18.73 RCW; physical therapy under chapter 18.74 RCW; practical nurses
11 under chapter 18.79 RCW; psychologists under chapter 18.83 RCW;
12 registered nurses under chapter 18.79 RCW; occupational therapists
13 licensed under chapter 18.59 RCW; respiratory care practitioners
14 licensed under chapter 18.89 RCW; veterinarians and veterinary
15 technicians under chapter 18.92 RCW; massage therapists under chapter
16 18.108 RCW; acupuncturists or acupuncture and Eastern medicine
17 practitioners licensed under chapter 18.06 RCW; persons registered
18 under chapter 18.19 RCW; persons licensed as mental health
19 counselors, marriage and family therapists, and social workers under
20 chapter 18.225 RCW; dietitians and nutritionists certified by chapter
21 18.138 RCW; radiologic technicians under chapter 18.84 RCW; nursing
22 assistants registered or certified under chapter 18.88A RCW;
23 reflexologists certified under chapter 18.108 RCW; medical
24 assistants-certified, medical assistants-hemodialysis technician,
25 medical assistants-phlebotomist, forensic phlebotomist, and medical
26 assistants-registered certified and registered under chapter 18.360
27 RCW; ~~((and))~~ licensed behavior analysts, licensed assistant behavior
28 analysts, and certified behavior technicians under chapter 18.380
29 RCW; and dental therapists licensed under chapter 18.--- RCW (the new
30 chapter created in section 22 of this act).

31 (5) "Inspection" means the periodic examination of practitioners
32 by a state agency in order to ascertain whether the practitioners'
33 occupation is being carried out in a fashion consistent with the
34 public health, safety, and welfare.

35 (6) "Legislative committees of reference" means the standing
36 legislative committees designated by the respective rules committees
37 of the senate and house of representatives to consider proposed
38 legislation to regulate health professions not previously regulated.

39 (7) "License," "licensing," and "licensure" mean permission to
40 engage in a health profession which would otherwise be unlawful in

1 the state in the absence of the permission. A license is granted to
2 those individuals who meet prerequisite qualifications to perform
3 prescribed health professional tasks and for the use of a particular
4 title.

5 (8) "Practitioner" means an individual who (a) has achieved
6 knowledge and skill by practice, and (b) is actively engaged in a
7 specified health profession.

8 (9) "Professional license" means an individual, nontransferable
9 authorization to carry on a health activity based on qualifications
10 which include: (a) Graduation from an accredited or approved program,
11 and (b) acceptable performance on a qualifying examination or series
12 of examinations.

13 (10) "Public member" means an individual who is not, and never
14 was, a member of the health profession being regulated or the spouse
15 of a member, or an individual who does not have and never has had a
16 material financial interest in either the rendering of the health
17 professional service being regulated or an activity directly related
18 to the profession being regulated.

19 (11) "Registration" means the formal notification which, prior to
20 rendering services, a practitioner shall submit to a state agency
21 setting forth the name and address of the practitioner; the location,
22 nature and operation of the health activity to be practiced; and, if
23 required by the regulatory entity, a description of the service to be
24 provided.

25 (12) "Regulatory entity" means any board, commission, agency,
26 division, or other unit or subunit of state government which
27 regulates one or more professions, occupations, industries,
28 businesses, or other endeavors in this state.

29 (13) "State agency" includes every state office, department,
30 board, commission, regulatory entity, and agency of the state, and,
31 where provided by law, programs and activities involving less than
32 the full responsibility of a state agency.

33 **Sec. 15.** RCW 18.130.040 and 2022 c 217 s 5 are each amended to
34 read as follows:

35 (1) This chapter applies only to the secretary and the boards and
36 commissions having jurisdiction in relation to the professions
37 licensed under the chapters specified in this section. This chapter
38 does not apply to any business or profession not licensed under the
39 chapters specified in this section.

1 (2) (a) The secretary has authority under this chapter in relation
2 to the following professions:

3 (i) Dispensing opticians licensed and designated apprentices
4 under chapter 18.34 RCW;

5 (ii) Midwives licensed under chapter 18.50 RCW;

6 (iii) Ocularists licensed under chapter 18.55 RCW;

7 (iv) Massage therapists and businesses licensed under chapter
8 18.108 RCW;

9 (v) Dental hygienists licensed under chapter 18.29 RCW;

10 (vi) Acupuncturists or acupuncture and Eastern medicine
11 practitioners licensed under chapter 18.06 RCW;

12 (vii) Radiologic technologists certified and X-ray technicians
13 registered under chapter 18.84 RCW;

14 (viii) Respiratory care practitioners licensed under chapter
15 18.89 RCW;

16 (ix) Hypnotherapists and agency affiliated counselors registered
17 and advisors and counselors certified under chapter 18.19 RCW;

18 (x) Persons licensed as mental health counselors, mental health
19 counselor associates, marriage and family therapists, marriage and
20 family therapist associates, social workers, social work associates—
21 advanced, and social work associates—independent clinical under
22 chapter 18.225 RCW;

23 (xi) Persons registered as nursing pool operators under chapter
24 18.52C RCW;

25 (xii) Nursing assistants registered or certified or medication
26 assistants endorsed under chapter 18.88A RCW;

27 (xiii) Dietitians and nutritionists certified under chapter
28 18.138 RCW;

29 (xiv) Substance use disorder professionals, substance use
30 disorder professional trainees, or co-occurring disorder specialists
31 certified under chapter 18.205 RCW;

32 (xv) Sex offender treatment providers and certified affiliate sex
33 offender treatment providers certified under chapter 18.155 RCW;

34 (xvi) Persons licensed and certified under chapter 18.73 RCW or
35 RCW 18.71.205;

36 (xvii) Orthotists and prosthetists licensed under chapter 18.200
37 RCW;

38 (xviii) Surgical technologists registered under chapter 18.215
39 RCW;

40 (xix) Recreational therapists under chapter 18.230 RCW;

1 (xx) Animal massage therapists certified under chapter 18.240
2 RCW;

3 (xxi) Athletic trainers licensed under chapter 18.250 RCW;
4 (xxii) Home care aides certified under chapter 18.88B RCW;
5 (xxiii) Genetic counselors licensed under chapter 18.290 RCW;
6 (xxiv) Reflexologists certified under chapter 18.108 RCW;
7 (xxv) Medical assistants-certified, medical assistants-
8 hemodialysis technician, medical assistants-phlebotomist, forensic
9 phlebotomist, and medical assistants-registered certified and
10 registered under chapter 18.360 RCW;

11 (xxvi) Behavior analysts, assistant behavior analysts, and
12 behavior technicians under chapter 18.380 RCW; and

13 (xxvii) Birth douglas certified under chapter 18.47 RCW.

14 (b) The boards and commissions having authority under this
15 chapter are as follows:

16 (i) The podiatric medical board as established in chapter 18.22
17 RCW;

18 (ii) The chiropractic quality assurance commission as established
19 in chapter 18.25 RCW;

20 (iii) The dental quality assurance commission as established in
21 chapter 18.32 RCW governing licenses issued under chapter 18.32 RCW,
22 licenses and registrations issued under chapter 18.260 RCW, licenses
23 issued under chapter 18.--- RCW (the new chapter created in section
24 22 of this act), and certifications issued under chapter 18.350 RCW;

25 (iv) The board of hearing and speech as established in chapter
26 18.35 RCW;

27 (v) The board of examiners for nursing home administrators as
28 established in chapter 18.52 RCW;

29 (vi) The optometry board as established in chapter 18.54 RCW
30 governing licenses issued under chapter 18.53 RCW;

31 (vii) The board of osteopathic medicine and surgery as
32 established in chapter 18.57 RCW governing licenses issued under
33 chapter 18.57 RCW;

34 (viii) The pharmacy quality assurance commission as established
35 in chapter 18.64 RCW governing licenses issued under chapters 18.64
36 and 18.64A RCW;

37 (ix) The Washington medical commission as established in chapter
38 18.71 RCW governing licenses and registrations issued under chapters
39 18.71 and 18.71A RCW;

1 (x) The board of physical therapy as established in chapter 18.74
2 RCW;

3 (xi) The board of occupational therapy practice as established in
4 chapter 18.59 RCW;

5 (xii) The nursing care quality assurance commission as
6 established in chapter 18.79 RCW governing licenses and registrations
7 issued under that chapter;

8 (xiii) The examining board of psychology and its disciplinary
9 committee as established in chapter 18.83 RCW;

10 (xiv) The veterinary board of governors as established in chapter
11 18.92 RCW;

12 (xv) The board of naturopathy established in chapter 18.36A RCW,
13 governing licenses and certifications issued under that chapter; and

14 (xvi) The board of denturists established in chapter 18.30 RCW.

15 (3) In addition to the authority to discipline license holders,
16 the disciplining authority has the authority to grant or deny
17 licenses. The disciplining authority may also grant a license subject
18 to conditions.

19 (4) All disciplining authorities shall adopt procedures to ensure
20 substantially consistent application of this chapter, the uniform
21 disciplinary act, among the disciplining authorities listed in
22 subsection (2) of this section.

23 **Sec. 16.** RCW 18.260.010 and 2007 c 269 s 1 are each amended to
24 read as follows:

25 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter
26 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

27 (1) "Close supervision" means that a supervising dentist or
28 supervising dental therapist whose patient is being treated has
29 personally diagnosed the condition to be treated and has personally
30 authorized the procedures to be performed. The supervising dentist or
31 supervising dental therapist is continuously on-site and physically
32 present in the treatment facility while the procedures are performed
33 by the assistive personnel and capable of responding immediately in
34 the event of an emergency. The term does not require a supervising
35 dentist or supervising dental therapist to be physically present in
36 the operatory.

37 (2) "Commission" means the Washington state dental quality
38 assurance commission created in chapter 18.32 RCW.

1 (3) "Dental assistant" means a person who is registered by the
2 commission to provide supportive services to a licensed dentist or a
3 licensed dental therapist to the extent provided in this chapter and
4 under the close supervision of a dentist or close supervision of a
5 dental therapist.

6 (4) "Dental therapist" means an individual who holds a license to
7 practice as a dental therapist under chapter 18.--- RCW (the new
8 chapter created in section 22 of this act).

9 (5) "Dentist" means an individual who holds a license to practice
10 dentistry under chapter 18.32 RCW.

11 (~~(5)~~) (6) "Department" means the department of health.

12 (~~(6)~~) (7) "Expanded function dental auxiliary" means a person
13 who is licensed by the commission to provide supportive services to a
14 licensed dentist or dental therapist to the extent provided in this
15 chapter and under the specified level of supervision of a dentist or
16 dental therapist.

17 (~~(7)~~) (8) "General supervision" means that a supervising
18 dentist or dental therapist has examined and diagnosed the patient
19 and provided subsequent instructions to be performed by the assistive
20 personnel, but does not require that the dentist or dental therapist
21 be physically present in the treatment facility.

22 (~~(8)~~) (9) "Secretary" means the secretary of health.

23 (~~(9)~~) (10) "Supervising dental therapist" means a dental
24 therapist licensed under chapter 18.--- RCW (the new chapter created
25 in section 22 of this act) who is responsible for providing the
26 appropriate level of supervision for dental assistants and expanded
27 function dental auxiliaries.

28 (11) "Supervising dentist" means a dentist licensed under chapter
29 18.32 RCW that is responsible for providing the appropriate level of
30 supervision for dental assistants and expanded function dental
31 auxiliaries.

32 **Sec. 17.** RCW 18.260.040 and 2015 c 120 s 3 are each amended to
33 read as follows:

34 (1)(a) The commission shall adopt rules relating to the scope of
35 dental assisting services related to patient care and laboratory
36 duties that may be performed by dental assistants.

37 (b) In addition to the services and duties authorized by the
38 rules adopted under (a) of this subsection, a dental assistant may
39 apply topical anesthetic agents.

1 (c) All dental services performed by dental assistants under (a)
2 or (b) of this subsection must be performed under the close
3 supervision of a supervising dentist or supervising dental therapist
4 as the dentist or dental therapist may allow.

5 (2) In addition to any other limitations established by the
6 commission, dental assistants may not perform the following
7 procedures:

8 (a) Any scaling procedure;

9 (b) Any oral prophylaxis, except coronal polishing;

10 (c) Administration of any general or local anesthetic, including
11 intravenous sedation;

12 (d) Any removal of or addition to the hard or soft tissue of the
13 oral cavity;

14 (e) Any diagnosis of or prescription for treatment of disease,
15 pain, deformity, deficiency, injury, or physical condition of the
16 human teeth, jaw, or adjacent structures; and

17 (f) The taking of any impressions of the teeth or jaw or the
18 relationships of the teeth or jaws, for the purpose of fabricating
19 any intra-oral restoration, appliance, or prosthesis, other than
20 impressions allowed as a delegated duty for dental assistants
21 pursuant to rules adopted by the commission.

22 (3) A dentist or dental therapist may not assign a dental
23 assistant to perform duties until the dental assistant has
24 demonstrated skills necessary to perform competently all assigned
25 duties and responsibilities.

26 **Sec. 18.** RCW 18.260.070 and 2007 c 269 s 6 are each amended to
27 read as follows:

28 (1) The commission shall adopt rules relating to the scope of
29 expanded function dental auxiliary services related to patient care
30 and laboratory duties that may be performed by expanded function
31 dental auxiliaries.

32 (2) The scope of expanded function dental auxiliary services that
33 the commission identifies in subsection (1) of this section includes:

34 (a) In addition to the dental assisting services that a dental
35 assistant may perform under the close supervision of a supervising
36 dentist or supervising dental therapist, the performance of the
37 following services under the general supervision of a supervising
38 dentist or supervising dental therapist as the dentist or dental
39 therapist may allow:

- 1 (i) Performing coronal polishing;
2 (ii) Giving fluoride treatments;
3 (iii) Applying sealants;
4 (iv) Placing dental x-ray film and exposing and developing the
5 films;

6 (v) Giving patient oral health instruction; and
7 (b) Notwithstanding any prohibitions in RCW 18.260.040, the
8 performance of the following services under the close supervision of
9 a supervising dentist or supervising dental therapist as the dentist
10 or dental therapist may allow:

- 11 (i) Placing and carving direct restorations; and
12 (ii) Taking final impressions.

13 (3) A dentist or dental therapist may not assign an expanded
14 function dental auxiliary to perform services until the expanded
15 function dental auxiliary has demonstrated skills necessary to
16 perform competently all assigned duties and responsibilities.

17 **Sec. 19.** RCW 18.260.080 and 2007 c 269 s 7 are each amended to
18 read as follows:

19 A supervising dentist or supervising dental therapist is
20 responsible for:

21 (1) Maintaining the appropriate level of supervision for dental
22 assistants and expanded function dental auxiliaries; and

23 (2) Ensuring that the dental assistants and expanded function
24 dental auxiliaries that the dentist or dental therapist supervises
25 are able to competently perform the tasks that they are assigned.

26 **Sec. 20.** RCW 69.41.010 and 2020 c 80 s 40 are each amended to
27 read as follows:

28 As used in this chapter, the following terms have the meanings
29 indicated unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

30 (1) "Administer" means the direct application of a legend drug
31 whether by injection, inhalation, ingestion, or any other means, to
32 the body of a patient or research subject by:

- 33 (a) A practitioner; or
34 (b) The patient or research subject at the direction of the
35 practitioner.

36 (2) "Commission" means the pharmacy quality assurance commission.

37 (3) "Community-based care settings" include: Community
38 residential programs for persons with developmental disabilities,

1 certified by the department of social and health services under
2 chapter 71A.12 RCW; adult family homes licensed under chapter 70.128
3 RCW; and assisted living facilities licensed under chapter 18.20 RCW.
4 Community-based care settings do not include acute care or skilled
5 nursing facilities.

6 (4) "Deliver" or "delivery" means the actual, constructive, or
7 attempted transfer from one person to another of a legend drug,
8 whether or not there is an agency relationship.

9 (5) "Department" means the department of health.

10 (6) "Dispense" means the interpretation of a prescription or
11 order for a legend drug and, pursuant to that prescription or order,
12 the proper selection, measuring, compounding, labeling, or packaging
13 necessary to prepare that prescription or order for delivery.

14 (7) "Dispenser" means a practitioner who dispenses.

15 (8) "Distribute" means to deliver other than by administering or
16 dispensing a legend drug.

17 (9) "Distributor" means a person who distributes.

18 (10) "Drug" means:

19 (a) Substances recognized as drugs in the official United States
20 pharmacopoeia, official homeopathic pharmacopoeia of the United
21 States, or official national formulary, or any supplement to any of
22 them;

23 (b) Substances intended for use in the diagnosis, cure,
24 mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease in human beings or
25 animals;

26 (c) Substances (other than food, minerals or vitamins) intended
27 to affect the structure or any function of the body of human beings
28 or animals; and

29 (d) Substances intended for use as a component of any article
30 specified in (a), (b), or (c) of this subsection. It does not include
31 devices or their components, parts, or accessories.

32 (11) "Electronic communication of prescription information" means
33 the transmission of a prescription or refill authorization for a drug
34 of a practitioner using computer systems. The term does not include a
35 prescription or refill authorization transmitted verbally by
36 telephone nor a facsimile manually signed by the practitioner.

37 (12) "In-home care settings" include an individual's place of
38 temporary and permanent residence, but does not include acute care or
39 skilled nursing facilities, and does not include community-based care
40 settings.

1 (13) "Legend drugs" means any drugs which are required by state
2 law or regulation of the pharmacy quality assurance commission to be
3 dispensed on prescription only or are restricted to use by
4 practitioners only.

5 (14) "Legible prescription" means a prescription or medication
6 order issued by a practitioner that is capable of being read and
7 understood by the pharmacist filling the prescription or the nurse or
8 other practitioner implementing the medication order. A prescription
9 must be hand printed, typewritten, or electronically generated.

10 (15) "Medication assistance" means assistance rendered by a
11 nonpractitioner to an individual residing in a community-based care
12 setting or in-home care setting to facilitate the individual's self-
13 administration of a legend drug or controlled substance. It includes
14 reminding or coaching the individual, handing the medication
15 container to the individual, opening the individual's medication
16 container, using an enabler, or placing the medication in the
17 individual's hand, and such other means of medication assistance as
18 defined by rule adopted by the department. A nonpractitioner may help
19 in the preparation of legend drugs or controlled substances for self-
20 administration where a practitioner has determined and communicated
21 orally or by written direction that such medication preparation
22 assistance is necessary and appropriate. Medication assistance shall
23 not include assistance with intravenous medications or injectable
24 medications, except prefilled insulin syringes.

25 (16) "Person" means individual, corporation, government or
26 governmental subdivision or agency, business trust, estate, trust,
27 partnership or association, or any other legal entity.

28 (17) "Practitioner" means:

29 (a) A physician under chapter 18.71 RCW, an osteopathic physician
30 or an osteopathic physician and surgeon under chapter 18.57 RCW, a
31 dentist under chapter 18.32 RCW, a podiatric physician and surgeon
32 under chapter 18.22 RCW, an acupuncturist or acupuncture and Eastern
33 medicine practitioner to the extent authorized under chapter 18.06
34 RCW and the rules adopted under RCW 18.06.010(1)(~~(j)~~) (m), a
35 veterinarian under chapter 18.92 RCW, a registered nurse, advanced
36 registered nurse practitioner, or licensed practical nurse under
37 chapter 18.79 RCW, an optometrist under chapter 18.53 RCW who is
38 certified by the optometry board under RCW 18.53.010, a physician
39 assistant under chapter 18.71A RCW, a naturopath licensed under
40 chapter 18.36A RCW, a licensed athletic trainer to the extent

1 authorized under chapter 18.250 RCW, a pharmacist under chapter 18.64
2 RCW, (~~or,~~) when acting under the required supervision of a dentist
3 licensed under chapter 18.32 RCW, a dental hygienist licensed under
4 chapter 18.29 RCW, or a licensed dental therapist to the extent
5 authorized under chapter 18.--- RCW (the new chapter created in
6 section 22 of this act);

7 (b) A pharmacy, hospital, or other institution licensed,
8 registered, or otherwise permitted to distribute, dispense, conduct
9 research with respect to, or to administer a legend drug in the
10 course of professional practice or research in this state; and

11 (c) A physician licensed to practice medicine and surgery or a
12 physician licensed to practice osteopathic medicine and surgery in
13 any state, or province of Canada, which shares a common border with
14 the state of Washington.

15 (18) "Secretary" means the secretary of health or the secretary's
16 designee.

17 **Sec. 21.** RCW 43.70.442 and 2020 c 229 s 1 and 2020 c 80 s 30 are
18 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

19 (1)(a) Each of the following professionals certified or licensed
20 under Title 18 RCW shall, at least once every six years, complete
21 training in suicide assessment, treatment, and management that is
22 approved, in rule, by the relevant disciplining authority:

23 (i) An adviser or counselor certified under chapter 18.19 RCW;

24 (ii) A substance use disorder professional licensed under chapter
25 18.205 RCW;

26 (iii) A marriage and family therapist licensed under chapter
27 18.225 RCW;

28 (iv) A mental health counselor licensed under chapter 18.225 RCW;

29 (v) An occupational therapy practitioner licensed under chapter
30 18.59 RCW;

31 (vi) A psychologist licensed under chapter 18.83 RCW;

32 (vii) An advanced social worker or independent clinical social
33 worker licensed under chapter 18.225 RCW; and

34 (viii) A social worker associate—advanced or social worker
35 associate—independent clinical licensed under chapter 18.225 RCW.

36 (b) The requirements in (a) of this subsection apply to a person
37 holding a retired active license for one of the professions in (a) of
38 this subsection.

1 (c) The training required by this subsection must be at least six
2 hours in length, unless a disciplining authority has determined,
3 under subsection (10)(b) of this section, that training that includes
4 only screening and referral elements is appropriate for the
5 profession in question, in which case the training must be at least
6 three hours in length.

7 (d) Beginning July 1, 2017, the training required by this
8 subsection must be on the model list developed under subsection (6)
9 of this section. Nothing in this subsection (1)(d) affects the
10 validity of training completed prior to July 1, 2017.

11 (2)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection:

12 (i) A professional listed in subsection (1)(a) of this section
13 must complete the first training required by this section by the end
14 of the first full continuing education reporting period after January
15 1, 2014, or during the first full continuing education reporting
16 period after initial licensure or certification, whichever occurs
17 later.

18 (ii) Beginning July 1, 2021, the second training for a
19 psychologist, a marriage and family therapist, a mental health
20 counselor, an advanced social worker, an independent clinical social
21 worker, a social worker associate-advanced, or a social worker
22 associate-independent clinical must be either: (A) An advanced
23 training focused on suicide management, suicide care protocols, or
24 effective treatments; or (B) a training in a treatment modality shown
25 to be effective in working with people who are suicidal, including
26 dialectical behavior therapy, collaborative assessment and management
27 of suicide risk, or cognitive behavior therapy-suicide prevention. If
28 a professional subject to the requirements of this subsection has
29 already completed the professional's second training prior to July 1,
30 2021, the professional's next training must comply with this
31 subsection. This subsection (2)(a)(ii) does not apply if the licensee
32 demonstrates that the training required by this subsection (2)(a)(ii)
33 is not reasonably available.

34 (b)(i) A professional listed in subsection (1)(a) of this section
35 applying for initial licensure may delay completion of the first
36 training required by this section for six years after initial
37 licensure if he or she can demonstrate successful completion of the
38 training required in subsection (1) of this section no more than six
39 years prior to the application for initial licensure.

1 (ii) Beginning July 1, 2021, a psychologist, a marriage and
2 family therapist, a mental health counselor, an advanced social
3 worker, an independent clinical social worker, a social worker
4 associate-advanced, or a social worker associate-independent clinical
5 exempt from his or her first training under (b) (i) of this subsection
6 must comply with the requirements of (a) (ii) of this subsection for
7 his or her first training after initial licensure. If a professional
8 subject to the requirements of this subsection has already completed
9 the professional's first training after initial licensure, the
10 professional's next training must comply with this subsection
11 (2) (b) (ii). This subsection (2) (b) (ii) does not apply if the licensee
12 demonstrates that the training required by this subsection (2) (b) (ii)
13 is not reasonably available.

14 (3) The hours spent completing training in suicide assessment,
15 treatment, and management under this section count toward meeting any
16 applicable continuing education or continuing competency requirements
17 for each profession.

18 (4) (a) A disciplining authority may, by rule, specify minimum
19 training and experience that is sufficient to exempt an individual
20 professional from the training requirements in subsections (1) and
21 (5) of this section. Nothing in this subsection (4) (a) allows a
22 disciplining authority to provide blanket exemptions to broad
23 categories or specialties within a profession.

24 (b) A disciplining authority may exempt a professional from the
25 training requirements of subsections (1) and (5) of this section if
26 the professional has only brief or limited patient contact.

27 (5) (a) Each of the following professionals credentialed under
28 Title 18 RCW shall complete a one-time training in suicide
29 assessment, treatment, and management that is approved by the
30 relevant disciplining authority:

31 (i) A chiropractor licensed under chapter 18.25 RCW;

32 (ii) A naturopath licensed under chapter 18.36A RCW;

33 (iii) A licensed practical nurse, registered nurse, or advanced
34 registered nurse practitioner, other than a certified registered
35 nurse anesthetist, licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW;

36 (iv) An osteopathic physician and surgeon licensed under chapter
37 18.57 RCW, other than a holder of a postgraduate osteopathic medicine
38 and surgery license issued under RCW 18.57.035;

39 (v) A physical therapist or physical therapist assistant licensed
40 under chapter 18.74 RCW;

1 (vi) A physician licensed under chapter 18.71 RCW, other than a
2 resident holding a limited license issued under RCW 18.71.095(3);
3 (vii) A physician assistant licensed under chapter 18.71A RCW;
4 (viii) A pharmacist licensed under chapter 18.64 RCW;
5 (ix) A dentist licensed under chapter 18.32 RCW;
6 (x) A dental hygienist licensed under chapter 18.29 RCW;
7 (xi) An athletic trainer licensed under chapter 18.250 RCW;
8 (xii) An optometrist licensed under chapter 18.53 RCW;
9 (xiii) An acupuncture and Eastern medicine practitioner licensed
10 under chapter 18.06 RCW; (~~and~~)
11 (xiv) A dental therapist licensed under chapter 18.--- RCW (the
12 new chapter created in section 22 of this act); and
13 (xv) A person holding a retired active license for one of the
14 professions listed in (a)(i) through (~~(xiii)~~) (xiv) of this
15 subsection.
16 (b)(i) A professional listed in (a)(i) through (vii) of this
17 subsection or a person holding a retired active license for one of
18 the professions listed in (a)(i) through (vii) of this subsection
19 must complete the one-time training by the end of the first full
20 continuing education reporting period after January 1, 2016, or
21 during the first full continuing education reporting period after
22 initial licensure, whichever is later. Training completed between
23 June 12, 2014, and January 1, 2016, that meets the requirements of
24 this section, other than the timing requirements of this subsection
25 (5)(b), must be accepted by the disciplining authority as meeting the
26 one-time training requirement of this subsection (5).
27 (ii) A licensed pharmacist or a person holding a retired active
28 pharmacist license must complete the one-time training by the end of
29 the first full continuing education reporting period after January 1,
30 2017, or during the first full continuing education reporting period
31 after initial licensure, whichever is later.
32 (iii) A licensed dentist, a licensed dental hygienist, or a
33 person holding a retired active license as a dentist shall complete
34 the one-time training by the end of the full continuing education
35 reporting period after August 1, 2020, or during the first full
36 continuing education reporting period after initial licensure,
37 whichever is later. Training completed between July 23, 2017, and
38 August 1, 2020, that meets the requirements of this section, other
39 than the timing requirements of this subsection (5)(b)(iii), must be

1 accepted by the disciplining authority as meeting the one-time
2 training requirement of this subsection (5).

3 (iv) A licensed optometrist or a licensed acupuncture and Eastern
4 medicine practitioner, or a person holding a retired active license
5 as an optometrist or an acupuncture and Eastern medicine
6 practitioner, shall complete the one-time training by the end of the
7 full continuing education reporting period after August 1, 2021, or
8 during the first full continuing education reporting period after
9 initial licensure, whichever is later. Training completed between
10 August 1, 2020, and August 1, 2021, that meets the requirements of
11 this section, other than the timing requirements of this subsection
12 (5)(b)(iv), must be accepted by the disciplining authority as meeting
13 the one-time training requirement of this subsection (5).

14 (c) The training required by this subsection must be at least six
15 hours in length, unless a disciplining authority has determined,
16 under subsection (10)(b) of this section, that training that includes
17 only screening and referral elements is appropriate for the
18 profession in question, in which case the training must be at least
19 three hours in length.

20 (d) Beginning July 1, 2017, the training required by this
21 subsection must be on the model list developed under subsection (6)
22 of this section. Nothing in this subsection (5)(d) affects the
23 validity of training completed prior to July 1, 2017.

24 (6)(a) The secretary and the disciplining authorities shall work
25 collaboratively to develop a model list of training programs in
26 suicide assessment, treatment, and management. Beginning July 1,
27 2021, for purposes of subsection (2)(a)(ii) of this section, the
28 model list must include advanced training and training in treatment
29 modalities shown to be effective in working with people who are
30 suicidal.

31 (b) The secretary and the disciplining authorities shall update
32 the list at least once every two years.

33 (c) By June 30, 2016, the department shall adopt rules
34 establishing minimum standards for the training programs included on
35 the model list. The minimum standards must require that six-hour
36 trainings include content specific to veterans and the assessment of
37 issues related to imminent harm via lethal means or self-injurious
38 behaviors and that three-hour trainings for pharmacists or dentists
39 include content related to the assessment of issues related to

1 imminent harm via lethal means. When adopting the rules required
2 under this subsection (6)(c), the department shall:

3 (i) Consult with the affected disciplining authorities, public
4 and private institutions of higher education, educators, experts in
5 suicide assessment, treatment, and management, the Washington
6 department of veterans affairs, and affected professional
7 associations; and

8 (ii) Consider standards related to the best practices registry of
9 the American foundation for suicide prevention and the suicide
10 prevention resource center.

11 (d) Beginning January 1, 2017:

12 (i) The model list must include only trainings that meet the
13 minimum standards established in the rules adopted under (c) of this
14 subsection and any three-hour trainings that met the requirements of
15 this section on or before July 24, 2015;

16 (ii) The model list must include six-hour trainings in suicide
17 assessment, treatment, and management, and three-hour trainings that
18 include only screening and referral elements; and

19 (iii) A person or entity providing the training required in this
20 section may petition the department for inclusion on the model list.
21 The department shall add the training to the list only if the
22 department determines that the training meets the minimum standards
23 established in the rules adopted under (c) of this subsection.

24 (e) By January 1, 2021, the department shall adopt minimum
25 standards for advanced training and training in treatment modalities
26 shown to be effective in working with people who are suicidal.
27 Beginning July 1, 2021, all such training on the model list must meet
28 the minimum standards. When adopting the minimum standards, the
29 department must consult with the affected disciplining authorities,
30 public and private institutions of higher education, educators,
31 experts in suicide assessment, treatment, and management, the
32 Washington department of veterans affairs, and affected professional
33 associations.

34 (7) The department shall provide the health profession training
35 standards created in this section to the professional educator
36 standards board as a model in meeting the requirements of RCW
37 28A.410.226 and provide technical assistance, as requested, in the
38 review and evaluation of educator training programs. The educator
39 training programs approved by the professional educator standards
40 board may be included in the department's model list.

1 (8) Nothing in this section may be interpreted to expand or limit
2 the scope of practice of any profession regulated under chapter
3 18.130 RCW.

4 (9) The secretary and the disciplining authorities affected by
5 this section shall adopt any rules necessary to implement this
6 section.

7 (10) For purposes of this section:

8 (a) "Disciplining authority" has the same meaning as in RCW
9 18.130.020.

10 (b) "Training in suicide assessment, treatment, and management"
11 means empirically supported training approved by the appropriate
12 disciplining authority that contains the following elements: Suicide
13 assessment, including screening and referral, suicide treatment, and
14 suicide management. However, the disciplining authority may approve
15 training that includes only screening and referral elements if
16 appropriate for the profession in question based on the profession's
17 scope of practice. The board of occupational therapy may also approve
18 training that includes only screening and referral elements if
19 appropriate for occupational therapy practitioners based on practice
20 setting.

21 (11) A state or local government employee is exempt from the
22 requirements of this section if he or she receives a total of at
23 least six hours of training in suicide assessment, treatment, and
24 management from his or her employer every six years. For purposes of
25 this subsection, the training may be provided in one six-hour block
26 or may be spread among shorter training sessions at the employer's
27 discretion.

28 (12) An employee of a community mental health agency licensed
29 under chapter 71.24 RCW or a chemical dependency program certified
30 under chapter 71.24 RCW is exempt from the requirements of this
31 section if he or she receives a total of at least six hours of
32 training in suicide assessment, treatment, and management from his or
33 her employer every six years. For purposes of this subsection, the
34 training may be provided in one six-hour block or may be spread among
35 shorter training sessions at the employer's discretion.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 22.** Sections 1 through 11 of this act
37 constitute a new chapter in Title 18 RCW.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 23.** The department of health shall adopt any
2 rules necessary to implement this act.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 24.** Sections 1 through 21 of this act take
4 effect January 1, 2024.

--- **END** ---