

**Proposed Substitute
Bill No. 7303**

LCO No. 6769

AN ACT CONCERNING DENTAL PRACTITIONERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 20-107 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2020*):

3 (a) Each application for a license to practice dentistry shall be [in
4 writing and signed by] submitted by the applicant and no license shall
5 be issued to any person unless he or she presents (1) a diploma or
6 other certificate of graduation conferring a dental degree from [some
7 reputable] a dental college or from a department of dentistry of a
8 medical college [conferring a dental degree, or unless he or she is
9 practicing as a legally qualified dentist in another state having
10 requirements for admission determined by the department to be
11 similar to or higher than the requirements of this state] accredited by
12 the American Dental Association's Commission on Dental
13 Accreditation or its successor organization; (2) evidence of satisfactory
14 completion of a written examination or examinations given by the
15 Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations, subject to such
16 conditions as the State Dental Commission as described in section 20-
17 103a, with the consent of the Commissioner of Public Health, may
18 prescribe; and (3) evidence of satisfactory completion of at least one
19 year of a clinically-based postdoctoral general practice or specialty
20 dental residency program accredited by the Commission on Dental
21 Accreditation, or its successor organization.

22 [(b) The Dental Commission may, with the consent of the
23 Commissioner of Public Health, determine the colleges which shall be

24 considered reputable dental or medical colleges for the purposes of
25 this chapter. The commission shall consult when possible with
26 nationally recognized accrediting agencies when making such
27 determinations.]

28 [(c)] (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of [subsections] subsection
29 (a) [and (b)] of this section, the department may issue a license to
30 practice dentistry to any applicant holding a diploma from a foreign
31 dental school, provided the applicant: (1) [is] Is a graduate of a dental
32 school located outside the United States and has received the degree of
33 doctor of dental medicine or surgery, or its equivalent; (2) [has] passed
34 the written and practical examination or examinations required in
35 subsection (a) of this section or section 20-108, as amended by this act;
36 (3) [has] successfully completed not less than two years of graduate
37 dental training as a resident dentist in a program accredited by the
38 Commission on Dental Accreditation; and (4) [has] successfully
39 completed, at a level greater than the second postgraduate year, not
40 less than three years of a residency or fellowship training program
41 accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation in a school of
42 dentistry in this state, or has served as a full-time faculty member of a
43 school of dentistry in this state pursuant to the provisions of section
44 20-120 for not less than three years.

45 Sec. 2. Section 20-108 of the general statutes is repealed and the
46 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2020*):

47 [(a) Except as provided in section 20-110 and subsection (b) of this
48 section, each applicant for a license to practice dental medicine or
49 dental surgery shall be examined by the Department of Public Health,
50 under the supervision of the Dental Commission as to his or her
51 professional knowledge and skill before such license is granted. Such
52 examination shall be conducted in the English language.] The State
53 Dental Commission may, with the consent of the Commissioner of
54 Public Health, accept and approve [, in lieu of the written examination
55 required by this section, the results of an examination given by the
56 Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations, subject to such

57 conditions as the commission may prescribe, and the Dental
58 Commission with the consent of the Commissioner of Public Health,
59 may accept and approve, in lieu of the written and practical
60 examination required by this section,] the results of [regional testing
61 agencies as to written and] clinical or practical examinations, subject to
62 such conditions as [the] said commission, with the consent of the
63 Commissioner of Public Health, may prescribe in lieu of the clinically
64 based postdoctoral general practice or specialty dental residency
65 program required pursuant to subsection (a) of section 20-107, as
66 amended by this act. On and after July 1, 2021, or upon the State
67 Dental Commission's approval of examinations that do not require the
68 participation of patients, whichever is earlier, such clinical or practical
69 examinations shall not require the participation of patients. Passing
70 scores shall be established by the department with the consent of the
71 commission.

72 [(b) In lieu of the practical examination required by subsection (a) of
73 this section, an applicant for licensure may submit evidence of having
74 successfully completed not less than one year of graduate dental
75 training as a resident dentist in a program accredited by the
76 Commission on Dental Accreditation, provided the director of the
77 dental residency program at the facility in which the applicant
78 completed the residency training provides documentation satisfactory
79 to the Department of Public Health attesting to the resident dentist's
80 competency in all areas tested on the practical examination required by
81 subsection (a) of this section. Not later than December 1, 2005, the
82 Dental Commission, in consultation with the Department of Public
83 Health, shall develop a form upon which such documentation shall be
84 provided.]

85 Sec. 3. Section 20-110 of the general statutes is repealed and the
86 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2020*):

87 The Department of Public Health may, upon receipt of an
88 application and a fee of five hundred sixty-five dollars, issue a license
89 without examination to a practicing dentist in another state or territory

90 who (1) holds a current valid license in good professional standing
91 issued after examination by another state or territory that maintains
92 licensing standards which, except for the practical examination, are
93 commensurate with the state's standards, and (2) has worked
94 continuously as a licensed dentist in an academic or clinical setting in
95 another state or territory for a period of not less than [five years] one
96 year immediately preceding the application for licensure without
97 examination. No license shall be issued under this section to any
98 applicant against whom professional disciplinary action is pending or
99 who is the subject of an unresolved complaint. The department shall
100 inform the Dental Commission annually of the number of applications
101 it receives for licensure under this section.

102 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2020*) (a) As used in this section:

103 (1) "Practice of advanced dental therapy" means the performance of
104 educational, preventive and therapeutic services through any one or
105 more of the following practices and procedures: (A) Identification of
106 oral and systemic conditions requiring evaluation or treatment by
107 dentists, physicians or other healthcare providers, and management of
108 referrals; (B) diagnosis of, and treatment for, oral diseases and
109 conditions within the advanced practice dental therapist scope of
110 practice, limited to the procedures in this section; (C) comprehensive
111 charting of the oral cavity; (D) oral health instruction and disease
112 prevention education, including nutritional counseling and dietary
113 analysis; (E) dispensing and administering nonnarcotic analgesics,
114 anti-inflammatory and antibiotic medications as prescribed by a
115 licensed health care provider, except schedule II, III or IV controlled
116 substances; (F) applying topical preventive or prophylactic agents,
117 including fluoride varnish, antimicrobial agents and pit and fissure
118 sealants; (G) pulp vitality testing; (H) applying desensitizing
119 medication or resin; (I) interim therapeutic restorations; (J) fabricating
120 athletic mouth guards; (K) changing periodontal dressings; (L)
121 administering local anesthetics under the general supervision of a
122 dentist; (M) simple extraction of erupted primary teeth; (N)
123 nonsurgical extractions of periodontally diseased permanent teeth

124 with tooth mobility of three or greater, but not including an extraction
125 of a tooth if it is unerupted, impacted, fractured or needs to be
126 sectioned for removal; (O) emergency palliative treatment of dental
127 pain, limited to the procedures in this section; (P) preparation and
128 placement of direct restoration in primary and permanent teeth, that
129 does not require the fabrication of crowns, bridges, veneers or
130 dentures; (Q) fabrication and placement of single-tooth temporary
131 crowns; (R) preparation and placement of preformed crowns on
132 primary teeth; (S) indirect and direct pulp capping on permanent teeth;
133 (T) indirect pulp capping on primary teeth; (U) suture removal; (V)
134 minor adjustments and repairs on removable prostheses; (W)
135 placement and removal of space maintainers; and (X) recementing
136 permanent crowns;

137 (2) "Collaborative agreement" means a written agreement between
138 an advanced practice dental therapist and a dentist licensed pursuant
139 to chapter 379 of the general statutes, that defines the working
140 relationship between the advanced practice dental therapist and the
141 dentist and the parameters of the practice provided by such advanced
142 practice dental therapist in accordance with subdivision (1) of this
143 subsection;

144 (3) "Advanced practice dental therapist" means a person authorized
145 to engage in the practice of advanced practice dental therapy under a
146 collaborative agreement;

147 (4) "Public health facility" has the same meaning as provided in
148 section 20-126*l* of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

149 (b) No person shall engage in the advanced practice of dental
150 therapy unless such person (1) is a dental hygienist licensed pursuant
151 to chapter 379a of the general statutes; (2) has obtained an advanced
152 practice dental therapist certification, that shall be (A) in writing, on
153 forms issued by an institution of higher education accredited by the
154 Commission on Dental Accreditation, after successful completion of an
155 advanced dental therapy program which includes, in accordance with
156 the Commission on Dental Accreditation Dental Therapy Standards,

157 full-time instruction, or its equivalent, at the postsecondary college
158 level and incorporate all advanced dental therapy practice
159 competencies, (B) signed by the advanced practice dental therapist and
160 the advanced practice dental therapy program director, and (C) made
161 available to the Department of Public Health upon request; (3) has
162 successfully completed a comprehensive examination prescribed by
163 the Commission on Dental Competency Assessments, or its equivalent,
164 and administered independently of any institution of higher education
165 that offers a program in advanced practice dental therapy; (4) prior to
166 entering the first collaborative agreement, (A) has received a certificate
167 of completion, signed by a dentist licensed pursuant to chapter 379 of
168 the general statutes, that verifies completion of one thousand hours of
169 clinical training under the direct supervision of such dentist, and (B)
170 has successfully completed six hours of continuing education related
171 to dental therapy; and (5) has entered into a collaborative agreement.

172 (c) An advanced practice dental therapist shall practice in a public
173 health facility under the general supervision of a licensed dentist in
174 accordance with a collaborative agreement.

175 (d) No provision of this section shall be construed to prohibit a
176 dental hygienist enrolled in an advanced practice dental therapy
177 program, as described in subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this
178 section, from performing dental therapy work as a required
179 component of his or her course of study in such program, provided
180 such dental hygienist (1) performs such work under the direct
181 supervision of a dentist licensed pursuant to chapter 379 of the general
182 statutes, (2) shall not hold himself or herself out as a certified advanced
183 practice dental therapist, and (3) shall not receive compensation for
184 such work.

185 (e) (1) A collaborative agreement required pursuant to subsection
186 (b) of this section shall include: (A) Identification of public health
187 facilities where services may be provided and the populations to be
188 served; (B) any limitations on the services that may be provided by the
189 advanced practice dental therapist; (C) age and procedure-specific

190 practice protocols, including case selection criteria, assessment
191 guidelines and imaging frequency; (D) a procedure for creating and
192 maintaining dental records for the patients that are treated by the
193 advanced practice dental therapist; (E) a plan to manage medical
194 emergencies in each public health facility where the advanced practice
195 dental therapist provides care; (F) a quality assurance plan for
196 monitoring care provided by the advanced practice dental therapist,
197 including patient care review, referral follow-up and a quality
198 assurance chart review; (G) protocols for dispensing and administering
199 medications, including the specific conditions and circumstances
200 under which these medications may be dispensed and administered;
201 (H) criteria relating to the provision of care to patients with specific
202 medical conditions or complex medication histories, including
203 requirements for consultation prior to the initiation of care; (I) criteria
204 for the supervision of dental assistants and dental hygienists in
205 accordance with subsection (g) of this section; and (J) a plan for the
206 provision of referrals in situations that are beyond the capabilities of
207 the advanced practice dental therapist.

208 (2) A collaborative agreement shall be (A) signed and maintained by
209 the supervising dentist and the advanced practice dental therapist and
210 kept on file at the locations where such advanced practice dental
211 therapist is employed, (B) reviewed by the dentist and advanced
212 practice dental therapist on an annual basis and revised as needed, and
213 (C) available for inspection upon the request of the Department of
214 Public Health.

215 (f) A dentist who enters into a collaborative agreement with an
216 advanced practice dental therapist (1) shall be professionally
217 responsible and legally liable for all services authorized and performed
218 by an advanced practice dental therapist pursuant to a collaborative
219 agreement, and (2) may not enter into a collaborative agreement with
220 more than two advanced practice dental therapists at any one time.
221 Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a dentist to enter
222 into a collaborative agreement with an advanced practice dental
223 therapist.

224 (g) An advanced practice dental therapist may directly supervise
225 not more than two dental assistants or expanded function dental
226 assistants, as defined in section 20-112a of the general statutes, as
227 amended by this act, or dental hygienists licensed pursuant to chapter
228 379a of the general statutes to the extent permitted in the collaborative
229 agreement.

230 (h) (1) Upon each renewal of a dental hygiene license pursuant to
231 chapter 379a of the general statutes, each advanced practice dental
232 therapist shall complete six hours of continuing education in addition
233 to the requirements of subsection (g) of section 20-126l of the general
234 statutes, as amended by this act, for a total of twenty-two hours of
235 continuing education within the preceding twenty-four-month period.

236 (2) Each advanced practice dental therapist applying for a renewal
237 of a dental hygiene license pursuant to chapter 379a of the general
238 statutes and in accordance with section 19a-88 of the general statutes
239 shall sign a statement attesting that he or she has satisfied the
240 continuing education requirements described in subdivision (1) of this
241 subsection on a form prescribed by the Department of Public Health.
242 Each advanced practice dental therapist shall retain records of
243 attendance or certificates of completion that demonstrate compliance
244 with the continuing education requirements described in subdivision
245 (1) of this subsection for not less than three years following the date on
246 which the continuing education was completed or the license was
247 renewed. Each advanced practice dental therapist shall submit such
248 records to the department for inspection not later than forty-five days
249 after a request by the department for such records. An advanced
250 practice dental therapist who fails to comply with the provisions of
251 this section may be subject to disciplinary action pursuant to section
252 20-126o of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

253 Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 20-126o of the general statutes is
254 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
255 *January 1, 2020*):

256 (a) The Department of Public Health may take any of the actions set

257 forth in section 19a-17 for any of the following causes: (1) The
258 presentation to the department of any diploma, license or certificate
259 illegally or fraudulently obtained, or obtained from an institution that
260 is not accredited or from an unrecognized or irregular institution or
261 state board, or obtained by the practice of any fraud or deception; (2)
262 illegal conduct; (3) negligent, incompetent or wrongful conduct in
263 professional activities; (4) conviction of the violation of any of the
264 provisions of sections 20-126h to 20-126w, inclusive, or section 4 of this
265 act by any court of criminal jurisdiction; (5) the violation of any of the
266 provisions of said sections or of the regulations adopted hereunder or
267 the refusal to comply with any of said provisions or regulations; (6) the
268 aiding or abetting in the practice of dental hygiene of a person not
269 licensed to practice dental hygiene in this state; (7) engaging in fraud
270 or material deception in the course of professional activities; (8) the
271 effects of physical or mental illness, emotional disorder or loss of
272 motor skill, including, but not limited to, deterioration through the
273 aging process, upon the license holder; (9) abuse or excessive use of
274 drugs, including alcohol, narcotics or chemicals; or (10) failure to
275 provide information to the Department of Public Health required to
276 complete a health care provider profile, as set forth in section 20-13j. A
277 violation of any of the provisions of sections 20-126h to 20-126w,
278 inclusive, or section 4 of this act by any unlicensed employee in the
279 practice of dental hygiene, with the knowledge of his or her employer,
280 shall be deemed a violation thereof by his or her employer. The
281 Commissioner of Public Health may order a license holder to submit to
282 a reasonable physical or mental examination if his or her physical or
283 mental capacity to practice safely is the subject of an investigation. Said
284 commissioner may petition the superior court for the judicial district of
285 Hartford to enforce such order or any action taken pursuant to said
286 section 19a-17.

287 Sec. 6. Section 20-126t of the general statutes is repealed and the
288 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2020*):

289 **Sec. 20-126t. Penalties.** Any person who violates any provision of
290 sections 20-126h to 20-126w, inclusive, or section 4 of this act shall be

291 guilty of a class D felony. Any person who continues to practice dental
292 hygiene or engage as a dental hygienist, after his license or authority to
293 so do has been suspended or revoked and while such disability
294 continues, shall be guilty of a class D felony. For the purposes of this
295 section, each instance of patient contact or consultation which is in
296 violation of any provision of this section shall constitute a separate
297 offense. Failure to renew a license in a timely manner shall not
298 constitute a violation for the purposes of this section.

299 Sec. 7. Subsections (c) and (d) of section 20-112a of the general
300 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
301 (*Effective January 1, 2020*):

302 (c) (1) A licensed dentist may delegate to dental assistants such
303 dental procedures as the dentist may deem advisable, including: (A)
304 The taking of dental x-rays if the dental assistant can demonstrate
305 successful completion of the dental radiation health and safety
306 examination administered by the Dental Assisting National Board; (B)
307 the taking of impressions of teeth for study models; and (C) the
308 provision of fluoride varnish treatments. Such procedures shall be
309 performed under direct supervision and the dentist providing direct
310 supervision shall assume responsibility for such procedures.

311 (2) A licensed dentist may delegate to an expanded function dental
312 assistant such dental procedures as the dentist may deem advisable,
313 including: (A) The placing, finishing and adjustment of temporary
314 restorations and long-term individual fillings, capping materials and
315 cement bases; (B) oral health education for patients; (C) dental sealants;
316 [and] (D) coronal polishing, provided the procedure is not represented
317 or billed as prophylaxis; (E) administration of topical anesthetic under
318 the direct supervision of the dentist prior to the administration of local
319 anesthetic by a dentist or dental hygienist; and (F) taking alginate
320 impressions of teeth, under the direct supervision of the dentist, for
321 use in study models, orthodontic appliances, whitening trays, mouth
322 guards or fabrication of temporary crowns. Such procedures shall be
323 performed under [the] either direct or indirect supervision, except as

324 specifically provided in this subdivision, and the dentist providing
325 such supervision shall assume responsibility for such procedures.

326 (3) On or after July 1, 2018, (A) no licensed dentist may delegate
327 dental procedures to a dental assistant or expanded function dental
328 assistant unless the dental assistant or expanded function dental
329 assistant provides records demonstrating successful completion of the
330 Dental Assisting National Board's infection control examination,
331 except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, (B) a dental
332 assistant may receive not more than nine months of on-the-job training
333 by a licensed dentist for purposes of preparing the dental assistant for
334 the Dental Assisting National Board's infection control examination,
335 and (C) any licensed dentist who delegates dental procedures to a
336 dental assistant shall retain and make such records available for
337 inspection upon request of the Department of Public Health.

338 (4) On and after January 1, 2018, upon successful completion of the
339 Dental Assisting National Board's infection control examination, each
340 dental assistant or expanded function dental assistant shall complete
341 not less than one hour of training or education in infection control in a
342 dental setting every two years, including, but not limited to, courses,
343 including online courses, offered or approved by a dental school or
344 another institution of higher education that is accredited or recognized
345 by the Commission on Dental Accreditation, a regional accrediting
346 organization, the American Dental Association or a state, district or
347 local dental association or society affiliated with the American Dental
348 Association or the American Dental Assistants Association.

349 (d) [Under] Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section,
350 under no circumstances may a dental assistant or expanded function
351 dental assistant engage in: (1) Diagnosis for dental procedures or
352 dental treatment; (2) the cutting or removal of any hard or soft tissue
353 or suturing; (3) the prescribing of drugs or medications that require the
354 written or oral order of a licensed dentist or physician; (4) the
355 administration of local, parenteral, inhalation or general anesthetic
356 agents in connection with any dental operative procedure; (5) the

357 taking of any final impression of the teeth or jaws or the relationship of
358 the teeth or jaws for the purpose of fabricating any appliance or
359 prosthesis; or (6) the practice of dental hygiene as defined in section
360 20-126l, as amended by this act.

361 Sec. 8. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 20-126c of the general
362 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
363 (*Effective January 1, 2020*):

364 (a) As used in this section:

365 (1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Health;

366 (2) "Contact hour" means a minimum of fifty minutes of continuing
367 education activity;

368 (3) "Department" means the Department of Public Health;

369 (4) "Licensee" means any person who receives a license from the
370 department pursuant to this chapter; [and]

371 (5) "Registration period" means the one-year period for which a
372 license renewed in accordance with section 19a-88 is current and valid;
373 and

374 (6) "Temporary dental clinic" means a dental clinic that provides
375 dental care services at no cost to uninsured or underinsured persons
376 and operates for not more than seventy-two consecutive hours.

377 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a licensee applying
378 for license renewal shall earn a minimum of twenty-five contact hours
379 of continuing education within the preceding twenty-four-month
380 period. Such continuing education shall (1) be in an area of the
381 licensee's practice; (2) reflect the professional needs of the licensee in
382 order to meet the health care needs of the public; and (3) include not
383 less than one contact hour of training or education in (A) any three of
384 the ten mandatory topics for continuing education activities prescribed
385 by the commissioner pursuant to this subdivision, (B) for registration

386 periods beginning on and after October 1, 2016, infection control in a
387 dental setting, and (C) prescribing controlled substances and pain
388 management. For registration periods beginning on and after October
389 1, 2011, the Commissioner of Public Health, in consultation with the
390 Dental Commission, shall on or before October 1, 2010, and biennially
391 thereafter, issue a list that includes ten mandatory topics for
392 continuing education activities that will be required for the following
393 two-year registration period. Qualifying continuing education
394 activities include, but are not limited to, courses, including on-line
395 courses, offered or approved by the American Dental Association or
396 state, district or local dental associations and societies affiliated with
397 the American Dental Association; national, state, district or local dental
398 specialty organizations or the American Academy of General
399 Dentistry; a hospital or other health care institution; dental schools and
400 other schools of higher education accredited or recognized by the
401 Council on Dental Accreditation or a regional accrediting organization;
402 agencies or businesses whose programs are accredited or recognized
403 by the Council on Dental Accreditation; local, state or national medical
404 associations; a state or local health department; or the Accreditation
405 Council for Graduate Medical Education. Eight hours of volunteer
406 dental practice at a public health facility, as defined in section 20-126l,
407 as amended by this act, or a temporary dental clinic may be
408 substituted for one contact hour of continuing education, up to a
409 maximum of ten contact hours in one twenty-four-month period.

410 Sec. 9. Subsection (a) of section 20-126l of the general statutes is
411 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
412 *January 1, 2020*):

413 (a) As used in this section:

414 (1) "General supervision of a licensed dentist" means supervision
415 that authorizes dental hygiene procedures to be performed with the
416 knowledge of said licensed dentist, whether or not the dentist is on the
417 premises when such procedures are being performed;

418 (2) "Public health facility" means an institution, as defined in section

419 19a-490, a community health center, a group home, a school, a
420 preschool operated by a local or regional board of education, a head
421 start program or a program offered or sponsored by the federal Special
422 Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children, a
423 senior center or a managed residential community, as defined in
424 section 19a-693, [or] a licensed child care center, as described in section
425 19a-77, or a temporary dental clinic, as defined in section 20-126c, as
426 amended by this act;

427 (3) The "practice of dental hygiene" means the performance of
428 educational, preventive and therapeutic services including: Complete
429 prophylaxis; the removal of calcerous deposits, accretions and stains
430 from the supragingival and subgingival surfaces of the teeth by
431 scaling, root planing and polishing; the application of pit and fissure
432 sealants and topical solutions to exposed portions of the teeth; dental
433 hygiene examinations and the charting of oral conditions; dental
434 hygiene assessment, treatment planning and evaluation; the
435 administration of local anesthesia in accordance with the provisions of
436 subsection (d) of this section; taking alginate impressions of teeth,
437 under the indirect supervision of a dentist, for use in study models,
438 orthodontic appliances, whitening trays, mouth guards and fabrication
439 of temporary crowns; and collaboration in the implementation of the
440 oral health care regimen; and

441 (4) "Contact hour" means a minimum of fifty minutes of continuing
442 education activity.

443 Sec. 10. Subsection (g) of section 20-126l of the general statutes is
444 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
445 *January 1, 2020*):

446 (g) Each licensed dental hygienist applying for license renewal shall
447 earn a minimum of sixteen contact hours of continuing education
448 within the preceding twenty-four-month period, including, for
449 registration periods beginning on and after October 1, 2016, at least
450 one contact hour of training or education in infection control in a
451 dental setting and, for registration periods beginning on and after

452 October 1, 2017, at least one contact hour of training or education in
453 cultural competency. The subject matter for continuing education shall
454 reflect the professional needs of the licensee in order to meet the health
455 care needs of the public. Continuing education activities shall provide
456 significant theoretical or practical content directly related to clinical or
457 scientific aspects of dental hygiene. Qualifying continuing education
458 activities include, but are not limited to, courses, including on-line
459 courses, that are offered or approved by dental schools and other
460 institutions of higher education that are accredited or recognized by
461 the Council on Dental Accreditation, a regional accrediting
462 organization, the American Dental Association, a state, district or local
463 dental association or society affiliated with the American Dental
464 Association, the National Dental Association, the American Dental
465 Hygienists Association or a state, district or local dental hygiene
466 association or society affiliated with the American Dental Hygienists
467 Association, the Academy of General Dentistry, the Academy of
468 Dental Hygiene, the American Red Cross or the American Heart
469 Association when sponsoring programs in cardiopulmonary
470 resuscitation or cardiac life support, the United States Department of
471 Veterans Affairs and armed forces of the United States when
472 conducting programs at United States governmental facilities, a
473 hospital or other health care institution, agencies or businesses whose
474 programs are accredited or recognized by the Council on Dental
475 Accreditation, local, state or national medical associations, or a state or
476 local health department. Eight hours of volunteer dental practice at a
477 public health facility, as defined in subsection (a) of this section, may
478 be substituted for one contact hour of continuing education, up to a
479 maximum of five contact hours in one two-year period. Activities that
480 do not qualify toward meeting these requirements include professional
481 organizational business meetings, speeches delivered at luncheons or
482 banquets, and the reading of books, articles, or professional journals.
483 [Not more than four contact hours of continuing education may be
484 earned through an on-line or other distance learning program.]

485 Sec. 11. Section 20-126l of the general statutes is amended by adding
486 subsection (l) as follows (*Effective January 1, 2020*):

487 (NEW) (l) No provision of chapter 379a shall be construed to
488 prohibit a student of dental hygiene enrolled in a dental hygiene
489 program, as described in section 20-126i, from performing dental
490 hygiene work as a required component of his or her course of study in
491 such program, provided that the student (1) performs such work
492 under the direct supervision of a dentist licensed pursuant to chapter
493 379 or a dental hygienist licensed pursuant to chapter 379a, (2) shall
494 not hold himself or herself out as a licensed dental hygienist, and (3)
495 shall not receive compensation for such work.

496 Sec. 12. (*Effective January 1, 2020*) The chairpersons of the joint
497 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
498 matters relating to public health shall convene a working group to
499 advise said joint standing committee regarding the certification of
500 dental therapists by the Department of Public Health. The working
501 group shall be comprised of the chairpersons of said joint standing
502 committee, or the chairpersons' designees, the Commissioner of Public
503 Health, or the commissioner's designee, representatives of the
504 Connecticut State Dental Association, including, but not limited to, at
505 least one dentist and one dental hygienist, a dental therapist certified
506 in another state, an advanced practice dental therapist certified in
507 another state, the president of the Board of Regents for Higher
508 Education, or the president's designee, a representative of the
509 Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges, a representative of
510 the American Dental Association's Commission on Dental
511 Accreditation and a representative of the Joint Commission on
512 National Dental Examinations. The working group may also include
513 members of said joint standing committee. The working group shall
514 evaluate and make recommendations regarding the scope of practice
515 of a dental therapist and the educational requirements and training
516 requirements that a person shall meet to become certified as a dental
517 therapist by the Department of Public Health. On or before January 1,
518 2020, the working group shall report, in accordance with the
519 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to said joint standing
520 committee regarding its findings and recommendations.

521 Sec. 13. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2019*) (a) As used in this section:

522 (1) "Point-of-service test" means diagnostic testing performed at the
523 site where patients will receive care or treatment; and

524 (2) "HbA1c percentage" means the proportion of hemoglobin to
525 which glucose is attached and measures the average circulating blood
526 glucose level over the previous two to three-month period.

527 (b) A dentist licensed under chapter 379 of the general statutes may,
528 during an office visit or prior to a procedure and with a patient's
529 consent, administer an in-office point-of-service test to the patient to
530 measure the patient's HbA1c percentage utilizing a finger-stick
531 measurement tool if such patient is at an increased risk of diabetes and
532 does not have a previous diagnosis of diabetes. A dentist who does not
533 administer such test pursuant to this section shall not be deemed to
534 have violated the standard of care for a dentist. The Commissioner of
535 Public Health may adopt regulations in accordance with the provisions
536 of chapter 54 of the general statutes to carry out the provisions of this
537 section.

538 Sec. 14. Subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of section 20-112a of the
539 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
540 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

541 (3) On or after July 1, 2018, (A) no licensed dentist may delegate
542 dental procedures to a dental assistant or expanded function dental
543 assistant unless the dental assistant or expanded function dental
544 assistant provides records demonstrating successful completion of the
545 Dental Assisting National Board's infection control examination or an
546 infection control competency assessment administered by a dental
547 education program in the state that is accredited by the American
548 Dental Association's Commission on Dental Accreditation, except as
549 provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, (B) a dental assistant
550 may receive not more than [nine] fifteen months of on-the-job training
551 by a licensed dentist for purposes of preparing the dental assistant for
552 the Dental Assisting National Board's infection control examination,

553 and (C) any licensed dentist who delegates dental procedures to a
554 dental assistant shall retain and make such records available for
555 inspection upon request of the Department of Public Health.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>January 1, 2020</i>	20-107
Sec. 2	<i>January 1, 2020</i>	20-108
Sec. 3	<i>January 1, 2020</i>	20-110
Sec. 4	<i>January 1, 2020</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>January 1, 2020</i>	20-126o(a)
Sec. 6	<i>January 1, 2020</i>	20-126t
Sec. 7	<i>January 1, 2020</i>	20-112a(c) and (d)
Sec. 8	<i>January 1, 2020</i>	20-126c(a) and (b)
Sec. 9	<i>January 1, 2020</i>	20-126l(a)
Sec. 10	<i>January 1, 2020</i>	20-126l(g)
Sec. 11	<i>January 1, 2020</i>	20-126l
Sec. 12	<i>January 1, 2020</i>	New section
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	New section
Sec. 14	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	20-112a(c)(3)