S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

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I N A S S E M B L Y

(PREFILED)

January 5, 2011

Introduced by M. of A. PHEFFER, PAULIN, GABRYSZAK, REILLY, MAISEL -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. HEASTIE, WEISENBERG -- read once and referred to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to allowing dental hygienists to perform anesthesia

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 6606 of the education law, as amended by chapter 437 of the laws of 2001, is amended to read as follows:

1. The practice of the profession of dental hygiene is defined as the performance of dental services which shall include removing calcareous deposits, accretions and stains from the exposed surfaces of the teeth which begin at the epithelial attachment and applying topical agents indicated for a complete dental prophylaxis, removing cement, placing or removing rubber dam, removing sutures, placing matrix band, providing patient education, applying topical medication, placing and exposing X-ray films, performing topical fluoride applications and topical anesthetic applications, polishing teeth, taking medical history, charting caries, taking impressions for study casts, placing and removing temporary restorations, administering and monitoring nitrous oxide analgesia and administering and monitoring local [infiltration] anesthesia, subject to certification in accordance with section sixty-six hundred five-b of this article, and any other function in the definition of the practice of dentistry as may be delegated by a licensed dentist in accordance with regulations promulgated by the commissioner. The practice of dental hygiene may be conducted in the office of any licensed dentist or in any appropriately equipped school or public institution but must be done under the supervision of a licensed dentist.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

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S 2. Section 6605-b of the education law, as added by chapter 437 of the laws of 2001, is amended to read as follows:

S 6605-b. Dental hygiene [restricted] local [infiltration] anesthesia/nitrous oxide analgesia certificate. 1. A dental hygienist shall not administer or monitor nitrous oxide analgesia or local [infiltration] anesthesia in the practice of dental hygiene without a dental hygiene [restricted] local [infiltration] anesthesia/nitrous oxide analgesia certificate and except under the personal supervision of a dentist [and in conjunction with the performance of dental hygiene procedures authorized by law] and in accordance with regulations promulgated by the commissioner. Personal supervision, for purposes of this section, means that the supervising dentist remains in the dental office where the local [infiltration] anesthesia or nitrous oxide analgesia services are being performed, personally authorizes and prescribes the use of local [infiltration] anesthesia or nitrous oxide analgesia for the patient and, before dismissal of the patient, personally examines the condition of the patient after the use of local [infiltration] anesthesia or nitrous oxide analgesia is completed. It is professional misconduct for a dentist to fail to provide the supervision required by this section, and any dentist found guilty of such misconduct under the procedures prescribed in section sixty-five hundred ten of this title shall be subject to the penalties prescribed in section sixty-five hundred eleven of this title.

2. The commissioner shall promulgate regulations establishing standards and procedures for the issuance of such certificate. Such standards shall require completion of an educational program and/or course of training or experience sufficient to ensure that a dental hygienist is specifically trained in the administration and monitoring of nitrous oxide analgesia and local [infiltration] anesthesia, the possible effects of such use, and in the recognition of and response to possible emergency situations.

3. The fee for a dental hygiene [restricted] local [infiltration] anesthesia/nitrous oxide analgesia certificate shall be twenty-five dollars and shall be paid on a triennial basis upon renewal of such certificate. A certificate may be suspended or revoked in the same manner as a license to practice dental hygiene.

S 3. This act shall take effect January 1, 2012.