STATE OF NEW YORK

9477

IN ASSEMBLY

January 7, 2026

Introduced by M. of A. PAULIN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to authorizing the performance of certain dental hygiene services at voluntary foster care agency health facilities

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Subdivision 4 of section 6606 of the education law, as added by a chapter of the laws of 2025 amending the education law relating to registered dental hygienists working without supervision but within a collaborative practice agreement with a licensed dentist, as proposed in legislative bills numbers S. 3157 and A. 2341, is amended to read as follows:

4. The performance of services pursuant to a collaborative agreement is authorized in the following settings: a hospital as defined in article twenty-eight of the public health law, **a voluntary foster care agency health facility licensed pursuant to article twenty-nine-I of the public health law,** an appropriately equipped school, a federally qualified health center, a long-term care facility, a group home servicing people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, a facility serving veterans, a temporary housing facility, a prison, a drug treatment facility, a domestic violence shelter, and appropriate settings in which homebound residents are unable to be relocated for necessary treatment.

§ 2. Section 6608 of the education law, as amended by chapter 457 of the laws of 2024, is amended to read as follows:

§ 6608. Definition of practice of registered dental assisting. The practice of registered dental assisting is defined as providing supportive services to a dentist in such dentist's performance of dental services authorized under this article. Such support shall include providing patient education, taking preliminary medical histories and vital signs to be reviewed by the dentist, placing and removing rubber dams, selecting and prefitting provisional crowns, selecting and prefitting orthodontic bands, removing orthodontic arch wires and ligature

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

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ties, placing and removing matrix bands, taking impressions for study casts or diagnostic casts, removing periodontal dressings, placing and removing temporary restorations, application of topical fluoride varnish, and such other dental supportive services authorized by the dentist consistent with regulations promulgated by the commissioner, provided that such functions are performed under the direct personal supervision of a licensed dentist in the course of the performance of dental services. Such services shall not include diagnosing and/or performing surgical procedures, irreversible procedures or procedures that would alter the hard or soft tissue of the oral and maxillofacial area or any other procedures determined by the department. The practice of registered dental assisting 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 direct personal supervision of a licensed dentist. Direct personal supervision, for purposes of this section, means supervision of dental procedures based on instructions given by a licensed dentist in the course of a procedure who remains in the dental office where the supportive services are being performed, personally diagnoses the condition to be treated, personally authorizes the procedures, and before dismissal of the patient, who remains the responsibility of the licensed dentist, evaluates the services performed by the registered dental assistant. Nothing herein authorizes a registered dental assistant to perform any of the services or functions defined as part of the practice of dental hygiene in accordance with the provisions of subdivision one of section sixty-six hundred six of this article, except those functions authorized pursuant to this section. All dental supportive services provided in this section may be performed by currently registered dental hygienists either under a dentist's supervision, as defined in regulations of the commissioner, or, in the case of a registered dental hygienist [~~working for a hospital as defined in article twenty-eight of the public health law~~] **performing services in a practice setting authorized under subdivision four of section sixty-six hundred six of this article**, pursuant to a collaborative arrangement with a licensed dentist in accordance with [~~subdivision one of~~] section sixty-six hundred six of this article. Such collaborative arrangement shall not obviate or supersede any law or regulation which requires identified services to be performed under the personal supervision of a dentist.

§ 3. This act shall take effect on the same date and in the same manner as a chapter of the laws of 2025 amending the education law relating to registered dental hygienists working without supervision but within a collaborative practice agreement with a licensed dentist, as proposed in legislative bills numbers S. 3157 and A. 2341, takes effect.