

HOUSE BILL 657

By Hill M

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 53  
and Title 63, relative to dental care.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-5-108, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection:

(1) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the practice of dental hygiene also includes prescriptive authority limited to fluoride agents, topical oral anesthetic agents, and nonsystemic oral antimicrobials that:

- (A) Are not controlled substances under state and federal drug laws; and
- (B) Do not require a license from the federal drug enforcement agency.

(2) Prescriptive authority under this section must be:

- (A) Exercised under the general supervision of a licensed dentist or under supervision as part of an authorized public health program;
- (B) Pursuant to rules promulgated by the board; and
- (C) In compliance with all applicable laws concerning prescription packaging, labeling, and record keeping requirements.

(3) The board shall determine by rule the educational and training requirements necessary for a dental hygienist to exercise prescriptive authority pursuant to this section.

(4) The board shall determine by rule the percentage of fluoride, chlorhexidine gluconate, or any other active ingredient in any medication that may be prescribed by a dental hygienist under this subsection.

SECTION 2. For purposes of promulgating rules, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect July 1, 2019, the public welfare requiring it.