HOUSE BILL 976

By Hill M

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, relative to dentistry.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-5-115(b), is amended by adding the following as a new subdivision to be appropriately designated:

() Teledentistry. As used in this chapter, "teledentistry" means the use of information by technology and telecommunications for dental care, consultation, education, and public awareness in the same manner as authorized for telemedicine and telehealth;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-5-115(d)(1), is amended in the

first sentence of the subdivision by inserting the language ", federally qualified health centers,"

between the language "nonprofit clinics" and "and public health programs".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-5-115(d)(1), is further amended by inserting the following language immediately after the third sentence of the subdivision:

Under the protocol, the initial and subsequent examinations by the dentist may be accomplished by means of teledentistry technology.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015, the public welfare requiring it.