
HOUSE BILL 2176

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By Representatives Caldier and Reeves

1 AN ACT Relating to improving access to patient care by increasing
2 preventive dental care; amending RCW 18.260.090; and adding new
3 sections to chapter 18.260 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 18.260
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 The commission shall issue a license to practice as a preventive
8 dental assistant to any applicant who:

9 (1) Pays any applicable fees as established by the secretary in
10 accordance with RCW 43.70.110 and 43.70.250;

11 (2) Submits, on forms provided by the secretary, the applicant's
12 name, address, and other applicable information as determined by the
13 secretary; and

14 (3) Demonstrates competency as a preventive dental assistant as
15 determined by the commission.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 18.260
17 RCW to read as follows:

18 (1) The commission shall adopt rules relating to the scope of
19 preventive dental assistant services that may be performed by

1 preventive dental assistants under the supervision of a licensed
2 dentist.

3 (2) The scope of preventive dental assistant services that the
4 commission identifies in subsection (1) of this section must include:

5 (a) Dental assisting services that a dental assistant may perform
6 under the supervision of a licensed dentist;

7 (b) Dental prophylaxis for patients in a healthy oral state as
8 defined by the commission; and

9 (c) Periodontal probing after initial probing by a dentist or
10 dental hygienist and diagnosis by a dentist.

11 (3) A dentist may not assign a preventive dental assistant to
12 perform services until the preventive dental assistant has
13 demonstrated skills necessary to competently perform all assigned
14 duties and responsibilities.

15 **Sec. 3.** RCW 18.260.090 and 2007 c 269 s 8 are each amended to
16 read as follows:

17 (1) The commission shall issue an initial credential or renewal
18 credential to an applicant who has met the requirements for a
19 credential or deny an initial credential or renewal credential based
20 upon failure to meet the requirements for a credential or
21 unprofessional conduct or impairment governed by chapter 18.130 RCW.

22 (2) The commission may adopt rules for renewal requirements for a
23 credential, including continuing education requirements, for
24 preventive dental assistants and expanded function dental auxiliary
25 licenses.

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