

JAN 26 2009

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

RELATING TO TEMPORARY LICENSURE OF DENTISTS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. There is a need to attract additional dentists  
2 who are willing to provide much needed dental care services for  
3 residents in underserved communities or populations statewide.  
4 Of particular concern are persons with disabilities, persons  
5 with mental illness, and the aging population who experience  
6 limited access to appropriate care as a consequence of their  
7 unique and challenging clinical management needs.

8           Given ongoing, unmet oral health needs in many communities  
9 or populations, expansion of temporary licensure, to provide for  
10 a full array of dental services by department of health  
11 employees or individuals contracted with the department, will  
12 increase the potential to plan for and ensure access to basic  
13 dental care.

14           The purpose of this Act is to amend a dentistry statute to  
15 provide a temporary license to practice dentistry to dentists  
16 who are employed by or under contract with the department of  
17 health.

1 SECTION 2. Section 448-12, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

3 "(b) The board of dental examiners may issue, without  
4 examination, to any resident or nonresident licensed in another  
5 state and otherwise qualified to be examined a temporary license  
6 to practice dentistry while in the employment of or under  
7 contract with the department of health, to provide dental  
8 services [~~to Hansen's disease sufferers~~]. The temporary license  
9 shall be valid for a period of three years [~~or until the first~~  
10 ~~board examination after the conclusion of the three year period~~  
11 ~~and only while the~~]. The person to whom the temporary license  
12 is issued is in the employment of or under contract with the  
13 department of health [~~and works~~] shall work under the general  
14 direction and supervision of a duly licensed dentist[~~. The~~]  
15 employed by the department of health. After the period of three  
16 years, the temporary license [~~shall not be reviewed and~~] shall  
17 be reviewed annually by the board of dental examiners for  
18 continuance and shall be subject to revocation and suspension as  
19 provided in section 448-17. The temporary licensee shall not be  
20 eligible for examination by the board of dental examiners while  
21 the temporary license is in effect."

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1 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

4  
5 INTRODUCED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

6 BY REQUEST

**Report Title:**

Temporary Licensure; Dentistry

**Description:**

Amends the dentistry statutes to provide for temporary licensure to practice dentistry while in the employment of or under contract with the Department of Health.

SB 933

JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Health

TITLE: A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TEMPORARY LICENSURE OF DENTISTS.

PURPOSE: Allow individuals who are employed or under contract with the Department of Health (DOH) to qualify for a temporary license to practice dentistry under the supervision of DOH's staff dentists.

MEANS: Amend section 448-12(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes.

JUSTIFICATION: DOH's recruitment of dentists is generally limited to the pool of individuals who maintain active Hawaii licenses to practice. Given unmet dental needs throughout the State, particularly in rural areas and services for persons with disabilities, mental illness, and the aging population, this measure would enable the DOH to recruit more dentists to serve these targeted, identified areas.

Impact on the public: Allow for improved responsiveness to public oral health needs.

Impact on the department and other agencies: The DOH will be able to effectively utilize existing personnel or contract individuals who may qualify for temporary licensure to provide dental services for underserved communities or populations.

GENERAL FUND: None.

OTHER FUNDS: None.

PPBS PROGRAM DESIGNATION: HTH-141.

OTHER AFFECTED

AGENCIES:

Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

Upon approval.