
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DENTAL LICENSURE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the current law
2 requiring passage of the American Board of Dental Examiners
3 (ADEX) examination for licensure as a dentist in the State was
4 originally enacted to allow Hawaii to participate in a
5 standardized national examination process. The first ADEX
6 dental examination was administered in Hawaii in December 2005.
7 Since then, however, limiting the approved examination to only
8 the ADEX examination has created many difficulties for dentists
9 to obtain licensure in Hawaii. For example, experienced,
10 qualified, and competent dentists who have been practicing
11 licensed dentistry in other states since prior to 2005 and who
12 desire to relocate and practice dentistry in Hawaii have been
13 unable to do so because they did not take and pass the ADEX
14 examination.

15 Allowing for the passage of other examinations or meeting
16 of certain professional qualifications will increase access to
17 the licensure process and allow more dentists, whose competence



1 in the profession has been certified by other states, to
2 practice within the State, increasing access to dental services
3 for Hawaii residents.

4 The purpose of this Act is to increase access to high-
5 quality dental care in the State by allowing the board of dental
6 examiners to accept other substantively similar clinical
7 examinations or certain professional qualifications to meet
8 licensure requirements.

9 SECTION 2. Section 448-9.4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 amended to read as follows:

11 "~~§448-9.4 [American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX)~~
12 ~~examination; regional examinations.] Dental licensure~~
13 ~~examination; other licensing qualifications.~~ An applicant shall
14 [~~take~~]:

15 (1) Take and pass the ADEX examination[~~, and neither the~~
16 ~~state examination nor any regional examination shall~~
17 ~~be accepted.] or any substantively similar exam,
18 including a uniform national dental and dental
19 licensure examination if created and approved in the
20 future; or~~

21 (2) Be a practicing dentist who:



H.B. NO. 560

- 1 (A) Holds a license to practice dentistry in another
- 2 state;
- 3 (B) Is in good standing with the state of licensure;
- 4 and
- 5 (C) Has a least five years of experience in the
- 6 practice of dentistry."

7 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
 8 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

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JAN 20 2017



H.B. NO. 860

Report Title:

Dental Licensure; Examination; Other Qualifications

Description:

Expands the required qualifications that applicants may fulfill as part of the requirements for dental licensure to include passage of other examinations substantively similar to ADEX and dental licensure in another state, along with other qualifications.

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