

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact §§ 54.1-2709 and 54.1-2722 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the*  
3 *licensure of dentists and dental hygienists.*

4 [H 2210]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That §§ 54.1-2709 and 54.1-2722 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:**

8 § 54.1-2709. License; application; qualifications; examinations.

9 No person shall practice dentistry unless he possesses a current valid license from the Board of  
10 Dentistry. An application for such license shall be made to the Board in writing and shall be  
11 accompanied by satisfactory proof that the applicant is of good moral character and a graduate of an  
12 accredited dental school or college, or dental department of a university or college.

13 Persons who have practiced dentistry in another country may submit an application to practice  
14 dentistry in Virginia if they have practiced dentistry in the other country for five consecutive years prior  
15 to application and if the application is accompanied by satisfactory proof that the applicant is a graduate  
16 of an approved dental school or college, or dental department of a university or college. The Board shall  
17 determine what constitutes an approved dental school, college, or dental department of a university.

18 The Board shall grant a license to practice dentistry to all eligible applicants whose performance on  
19 the examination is satisfactory, as determined by the Board.

20 Examinations shall test the qualifications of the applicant to practice dentistry. Within thirty days of  
21 the examination, each applicant shall be notified of his performance.

22 *The Board shall provide for an inactive license for those dentists who have been fully licensed in the*  
23 *Commonwealth and do not wish to practice in Virginia. No person shall practice in Virginia unless he*  
24 *holds a current, active license. The Board shall promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to*  
25 *carry out the provisions of this section, including requirements for remedial education to activate a*  
26 *license.*

27 *The Board shall promulgate regulations to be effective in 280 days or less of the enactment of this*  
28 *provision.*

29 § 54.1-2722. License; application; qualifications; practice of dental hygiene.

30 No person shall practice dental hygiene unless he possesses a valid license from the Board of  
31 Dentistry. The licensee shall have the right to practice dental hygiene in this Commonwealth for the  
32 period of his license as set by the Board, under the direction of any licensed dentist.

33 An application for such license shall be made to the Board in writing, and shall be accompanied by  
34 satisfactory proof that the applicant is of good moral character and a graduate of an accredited dental  
35 hygiene program approved by the Board and offered by an accredited institution of higher education.

36 A licensed dental hygienist may, under the direction of a licensed dentist and subject to the  
37 regulations of the Board, perform services which are educational, diagnostic, therapeutic, or preventive.  
38 These services shall not include the establishment of a final diagnosis or treatment plan for a dental  
39 patient.

40 The Board shall grant a license to practice dental hygiene to all eligible applicants whose  
41 performance on the examination is satisfactory as determined by the Board.

42 Examinations shall test the qualifications of the applicant to practice dental hygiene. Within thirty  
43 days of the examination, each applicant shall be notified of his performance.

44 *The Board shall provide for an inactive license for those dental hygienists who have been fully*  
45 *licensed in the Commonwealth and do not wish to practice in Virginia. No person shall practice in*  
46 *Virginia unless he holds a current, active license. The Board shall promulgate such regulations as may*  
47 *be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section, including requirements for remedial education*  
48 *to activate a license.*

49 *The Board shall promulgate regulations to be effective in 280 days or less of the enactment of this*  
50 *provision.*