

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to direct the Virginia Department of Health Professions to convene a workgroup to provide*
3 *recommendations related to regulations on changes to licensure requirements of dentists and dental*
4 *hygienists to enhance access to quality dental care; report.*

5 [H 2251]

6 Approved

7 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

8 **1. § 1.** *The Virginia Department of Health Professions shall convene a workgroup consisting of*
9 *representatives of the Virginia Dental Association, the Virginia Dental Hygienists' Association, the*
10 *Association of Dental Support Organizations, the Virginia Board of Dentistry, and other relevant*
11 *stakeholders to analyze licensure requirements for dentists and dental hygienists in the Commonwealth*
12 *and determine what changes to such requirements may be warranted, if any, to ensure access to*
13 *affordable, quality dental care throughout the Commonwealth. The workgroup shall (i) compare*
14 *licensure requirements for dentists and dental hygienists in the Commonwealth with such requirements*
15 *in other states and the District of Columbia; (ii) analyze the number of licensed dentists in the*
16 *Commonwealth relative to population growth and geography; (iii) identify the risks and benefits to the*
17 *public if a licensure by endorsement pathway were to exist in the Commonwealth; and (iv) identify any*
18 *other licensure pathways that would serve the public good. The workgroup shall report its findings*
19 *along with any recommendations for legislation to the House Committee on Health, Welfare, and*
20 *Institutions and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by October 1, 2023.*

ENROLLED

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