

SENATE No. 01077

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Harriette L. Chandler

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act to establish a subcommittee of dental hygienists within the board of registration in dentistry..

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Harriette L. Chandler

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Worcester

SENATE No. 01077

By Ms. Chandler, petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1077) of Chandler for legislation to establish a subcommittee of dental hygienists within the board of registration in dentistry [Joint Committee on Public Health].

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act to establish a subcommittee of dental hygienists within the board of registration in dentistry..

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 19 of chapter 13 of the General laws, as amended by section 1 and
2 section 2 of chapter 530 of the acts of 2008, is hereby amended by adding the following three
3 paragraphs - There shall be a sub-committee of dental hygienists, referred to in the following
4 sections as “the subcommittee”, added to the board of registration in dentistry in the following
5 sections called the “board”, consisting of 7 persons, each of whom shall be a legal resident of the
6 commonwealth, 1 of whom shall be a dental hygienist who is a member of the board; 4 of whom
7 shall be a graduate of a reputable school of dental hygiene and a reputable dental hygienist who
8 has maintained a license to practice dental hygiene in the commonwealth for the 5 years
9 preceding his appointment by the governor; 1 of whom shall be a representative of the public,
10 subject to the provisions of section 9b; and 1 of whom shall be a dentist on the board, appointed
11 by the president of the board. The governor shall appoint annually in April a successor to those

12 members of the subcommittee whose terms are expiring in that month. Each of the 2 members of
13 subcommittee who also are members of the board shall serve on the subcommittee for the
14 duration of that member's term on the board. The term of a member of the subcommittee who is
15 not a member of the board is 3 years. No member shall serve more than 2 full terms. The
16 subcommittee shall elect officers annually as deemed necessary to administer its duties and as
17 provided in rules and regulations.

18 SECTION 2. The subcommittee shall have the authority to adopt recommendations
19 regarding the practice, regulation, discipline, education, examination, and licensure of dental
20 hygienists, subject to section 3, and shall carry out duties as assigned by the board. The
21 subcommittee shall have no regulatory or disciplinary authority with regard to dentists, dental
22 assistants, dental lab technicians, or any other auxiliary dental personnel. A simple majority of
23 the board members currently serving shall constitute a quorum.

24 SECTION 3. The board shall ratify recommendations of the subcommittee at the first
25 meeting of the board following adoption of the recommendations by the subcommittee, or at a
26 meeting of the board specifically called for the purpose of board review and ratification of
27 subcommittee recommendations. The board shall decline to ratify subcommittee
28 recommendations only if the board makes a specific finding that a recommendation exceeds the
29 jurisdiction or expands the scope of the committee beyond the authority granted in section 2,
30 creates an undue financial impact on the board, or is not supported by the record. The board shall
31 pay the necessary expenses of the subcommittee and of the board in implementing subcommittee
32 recommendations ratified by the board.