

SENATE BILL 335

J2

4lr1824

By: **Senator Klausmeier**

Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2024

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Occupations – Private Dental Offices – Infection Control**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring each owner of a private dental office to designate a licensed
4 dentist to be the supervising dentist for the private dental office; requiring a
5 supervising dentist to complete the registration required by the State Board of
6 Dental Examiners and be responsible for all infection control activities within the
7 private dental office; establishing a certain limit on the number of private dental
8 offices that a supervising dentist may supervise; requiring the owner of a private
9 dental office to designate an interim supervising dentist under certain
10 circumstances; authorizing the Board to charge a certain registration fee; and
11 generally relating to infection control in private dental offices.

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Health Occupations

14 Section 4–104

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

18 Article – Health Occupations

19 Section 4–308(l)(1)

20 Annotated Code of Maryland

21 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

22 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
23 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

24 **Article – Health Occupations**

25 **4–104.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "PRIVATE DENTAL OFFICE" HAS THE MEANING
2 STATED IN § 4-308(L)(1) OF THIS TITLE.

3 (B) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY WITH RESPECT TO PRIVATE DENTAL
4 OFFICES.

5 (C) EACH OWNER OF A PRIVATE DENTAL OFFICE SHALL DESIGNATE A
6 LICENSED DENTIST TO BE THE SUPERVISING DENTIST FOR THE PRIVATE DENTAL
7 OFFICE.

8 (D) A SUPERVISING DENTIST DESIGNATED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS
9 SECTION SHALL:

10 (1) COMPLETE THE REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY THE BOARD; AND

11 (2) BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL INFECTION CONTROL ACTIVITIES
12 WITHIN THE PRIVATE DENTAL OFFICE, INCLUDING ADHERENCE TO THE CENTERS
13 FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION GUIDELINES FOR INFECTION CONTROL
14 IN DENTAL HEALTH-CARE SETTINGS, OR ITS SUCCESSOR GUIDELINES.

15 (E) A SUPERVISING DENTIST DESIGNATED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS
16 SECTION MAY SUPERVISE NOT MORE THAN THREE PRIVATE DENTAL OFFICES THAT
17 ARE WITHIN CLOSE ENOUGH PROXIMITY TO ALLOW FOR PERSONAL OVERSIGHT OF
18 EACH OFFICE, AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD IN REGULATION.

19 (F) IF A SUPERVISING DENTIST FOR A PRIVATE DENTAL OFFICE
20 RELINQUISHES THE SUPERVISING DENTIST'S RESPONSIBILITY UNDER SUBSECTION
21 (D)(2) OF THIS SECTION FOR ANY REASON, THE OWNER OF THE PRIVATE DENTAL
22 OFFICE SHALL IMMEDIATELY DESIGNATE AN INTERIM SUPERVISING DENTIST WHO
23 SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL INFECTION CONTROL WITHIN THE PRIVATE
24 DENTAL OFFICE UNTIL A NEW SUPERVISING DENTIST FOR THE PRIVATE DENTAL
25 OFFICE REGISTERS WITH THE BOARD.

26 (G) THE BOARD MAY CHARGE A FEE FOR THE REGISTRATION OF A
27 SUPERVISING DENTIST UNDER THIS SECTION.

28 4-308.

29 (l) (1) In this subsection, "private dental office" means a dental office owned
30 and operated by:

31 (i) A licensed dentist; or

1 (ii) A professional corporation, partnership, limited liability
2 company, or limited liability partnership owned and controlled by a licensed dentist.

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 October 1, 2024.