

Chapter 271

(Senate Bill 459)

AN ACT concerning

Health Occupations – Dental Hygienists – Provision of Services ~~Without Supervision~~ at a Community-Based Health Fair

FOR the purpose of authorizing a licensed dental hygienist, without the supervision of a dentist, to provide certain services ~~in any setting~~; without compensation at certain community-based health fairs; requiring the Board of Dental Examiners, in consultation with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Office of Oral Health, to develop a certain form; requiring a certain dental hygienist to complete and submit a certain form to the Office of Oral Health under certain circumstances; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the practice of licensed dental hygienists.

BY adding to

Article – Health Occupations

Section 4–308.1

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2009 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

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

Article – Health Occupations

4–308.1.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “COMMUNITY-BASED HEALTH FAIR” MEANS A HEALTH SERVICE EVENT THAT OFFERS PRIMARY HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO AN INDIVIDUAL FOR FREE OR USING A SLIDING FEE SCHEDULE THAT IS SPONSORED BY:

(1) THE FEDERAL, THE STATE, OR A LOCAL GOVERNMENT;

(2) A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT IS EXEMPT FROM TAXATION UNDER § 501(C)(3) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE; OR

(3) A NONPROFIT COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION THAT HAS THE STATED PURPOSE OF PROVIDING HEALTH SERVICES TO THE DISADVANTAGED.

(B) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS TITLE, A LICENSED DENTAL HYGIENIST, WITHOUT THE SUPERVISION OF A DENTIST, MAY PROVIDE WITHOUT COMPENSATION THE FOLLOWING SERVICES ~~IN ANY SETTING~~ AT A COMMUNITY-BASED HEALTH FAIR:

(1) ~~ORAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS ASSESSMENTS~~ A PRELIMINARY DENTAL EXAMINATION, INCLUDING CHARTING ANY CAVITIES, RESTORATIONS, OR MISSING TEETH;

(2) ~~DENTAL HYGIENE~~ ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION;

(3) ~~A REFERRAL TO A DENTAL HOME~~ TAKING BLOOD PRESSURE, PULSE RATE, RESPIRATION RATE, HEIGHT, AND WEIGHT; AND

(4) ~~FLUORIDE VARNISH TREATMENTS~~ REFERRALS TO A DENTAL HOME, INCLUDING PROVIDING A PATIENT WITH A LIST OF CLINICAL PUBLIC HEALTH FACILITIES.

(C) (1) THE BOARD, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S OFFICE OF ORAL HEALTH, SHALL DEVELOP A STANDARD FORM TO BE USED BY A DENTAL HYGIENIST WHO PERFORMS THE SERVICES AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS SECTION AT A COMMUNITY-BASED HEALTH FAIR.

(2) A DENTAL HYGIENIST WHO PERFORMS SERVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION SHALL:

(I) FILL OUT THE FORM REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR EACH PATIENT WHO RECEIVED SERVICES FROM THE DENTAL HYGIENIST; AND

(II) SUBMIT THE COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF ORAL HEALTH.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2013.

Approved by the Governor, May 2, 2013.