

1-1 By: Uresti S.B. No. 692  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 15, 2007; February 28, 2007,  
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Health and Human  
1-4 Services; April 19, 2007, reported adversely, with favorable  
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0;  
1-6 April 19, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 692 By: Uresti

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to the authority of a dental assistant to perform coronal  
1-11 polishing and apply a pit and fissure sealant.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. Subsection (b), Section 258.002, Occupations  
1-14 Code, is amended to read as follows:

1-15 (b) A licensed dentist may delegate, under Subsection (a),  
1-16 the performance of a coronal polishing and application of a pit and  
1-17 fissure sealant to a dental assistant certified under Section  
1-18 265.004 [~~if the dentist is a Medicaid provider or the dentist~~  
1-19 ~~practices in an area determined to be underserved by the Texas~~  
1-20 ~~Department of Health~~]. Cleansing of the occlusal and smooth  
1-21 surfaces of the teeth by a dental assistant is allowed immediately  
1-22 prior to and for the sole purpose of preparing the tooth area for  
1-23 the placement of pit and fissure sealants or orthodontic bonding  
1-24 resin, and shall not be billed as a prophylaxis.

1-25 SECTION 2. Section 265.003, Occupations Code, is amended to  
1-26 read as follows:

1-27 Sec. 265.003. PERMITTED DUTIES. (a) A dental assistant  
1-28 who is not professionally licensed may:

1-29 (1) be employed by and work in the office of a licensed  
1-30 and practicing dentist; and

1-31 (2) perform one or more delegated dental acts under  
1-32 the direct supervision, direction, and responsibility of the  
1-33 dentist, including the performance of a coronal polishing and  
1-34 application of a pit and fissure sealant.

1-35 (b) A dental assistant may perform a coronal polishing and  
1-36 apply a pit and fissure sealant under Subsection (a) only if [+

1-37 [~~(1)~~] the assistant is certified to perform a coronal  
1-38 polishing and apply a pit and fissure sealant under Section  
1-39 265.004 [~~, and~~

1-40 [~~(2) the dentist described by Subsection (a):~~

1-41 [~~(A) is a Medicaid provider, or~~

1-42 [~~(B) practices in an area determined to be~~  
1-43 ~~underserved by the Texas Department of Health~~].

1-44 SECTION 3. The heading to Section 265.004, Occupations  
1-45 Code, is amended to read as follows:

1-46 Sec. 265.004. CORONAL POLISHING AND PIT AND FISSURE SEALANT  
1-47 CERTIFICATE.

1-48 SECTION 4. Subsections (a) and (b), Section 265.004,  
1-49 Occupations Code, are amended to read as follows:

1-50 (a) The board shall issue a coronal polishing and pit and  
1-51 fissure sealant certificate to a dental assistant who qualifies  
1-52 under this section.

1-53 (b) To qualify for a certificate, an applicant must:

1-54 (1) have at least two years' experience as a dental  
1-55 assistant; and

1-56 (2) have successfully completed a minimum of 12 [~~16~~]  
1-57 hours of clinical and didactic education in coronal polishing and  
1-58 pit and fissure sealants taken through an accredited dental hygiene  
1-59 program or a dental assisting program accredited by the Commission  
1-60 on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association and  
1-61 approved by the board.

1-62 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
1-63 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

2-1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2-2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
2-3 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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