

By: Van de Putte

S.B. No. 857

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the authority of a dental hygienist to provide services in certain facilities and schools.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Sections 262.1515(a) and (c), Occupations Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) A licensed dentist may delegate a service, task, or procedure, pursuant to this section, to a dental hygienist, without complying with Section 262.151(a)(2) if:

(1) the dental hygienist has at least two years' experience in the practice of dental hygiene; and

(2) the service, task, or procedure is performed in one of the following locations:

(A) a nursing facility as defined in Section 242.301, Health and Safety Code;

(B) a school-based health center established under Subchapter B, Chapter 38, Education Code; ~~or~~

(C) a community health center as defined by Section 136.002, Human Resources Code; or

(D) a public or private school or preschool, including a facility in which a government-funded early child-care and education program is provided.

(c) A dental hygienist may only perform delegated tasks or procedures with respect to a patient for 12 ~~six~~ months unless the

1 patient has been examined by a dentist in compliance with Section
2 262.151(a)(2).

3 SECTION 2. Section 262.152, Occupations Code, is amended to
4 read as follows:

5 Sec. 262.152. PERFORMANCE OF DELEGATED DUTIES. Except as
6 provided by Section 262.1515, a dental hygienist shall practice
7 dental hygiene:

8 (1) in the dental office of a supervising dentist
9 licensed by the board; or

10 (2) in an alternate setting, including a nursing home,
11 the patient's home, a school, a preschool, a hospital, a state
12 institution, a public health clinic, or another institution, under
13 the supervision of a supervising dentist.

14 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.