

HB 2229 -- Expanded-Functions Permits for Certain Dental Assistants and Dental Hygienists

Sponsor: Schoemehl

This bill requires all dental assistants and dental hygienists to obtain a permit from the Missouri Dental Board within the Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration in order to perform expanded-functions duties. "Expanded-functions duties" are defined as reversible acts that would be considered the practice of dentistry that the board specifies by rule may be delegated to a dental assistant or dental hygienist who possesses an expanded-functions permit.

Nothing in the bill will be construed as making it unlawful for a licensed dentist to perform any dental services that would be considered expanded-functions duties or dental assistants, certified dental assistants, or expanded-functions dental assistants to polish teeth. The board is prohibited from establishing any rule allowing the delegation of acts to a dental assistant which would conflict with the practice of dental hygiene. Expanded-functions permits must be renewed every five years, and the board is authorized to establish rules regarding the issuance and renewal of the permits.