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## **OLR Bill Analysis**

### **HB 5303**

#### ***AN ACT ALLOWING DENTAL HYGIENISTS TO PROVIDE DENTAL HYGIENE SERVICES IN PRIVATE RESIDENCES.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill allows dental hygienists who have been practicing for at least two years to provide dental hygiene services, without a dentist's general supervision, in private residences. Current law already allows hygienists to do this in public health facilities (e.g., hospitals, residential care homes, and senior centers).

As under existing law for dental hygienists practicing in public health facilities, the bill requires those practicing in private residences to refer a patient to a licensed dentist if the patient's needs exceed the hygienist's scope of practice (see BACKGROUND).

As under existing law, dental hygienists practicing without a dentist's supervision may not perform certain dental services, such as making a diagnosis for dental procedures or treatment; cutting or removing any hard or soft tissue; prescribing medications; taking teeth or jaw impressions; or placing or adjusting final restorations, capping materials, or cement bases.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

#### **BACKGROUND**

##### ***Dental Hygienist Scope of Practice***

By law, dental hygienists may provide educational, preventative, and therapeutic services. These services include completing a prophylaxis; removing calcium deposits, accretions, and stains; applying pit and fissure sealants and topical solutions to exposed parts of teeth; and dental hygiene exams, including hygiene assessments, treatment plans, and charting oral conditions. Under certain circumstances, they may

also take alginate impressions of teeth and administer local anesthesia.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Aging Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 14 Nay 0 (03/05/2026)