
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5399

AN ACT CONCERNING DENTISTRY.

SUMMARY

This bill allows dentists to administer nonsurgical cosmetic injections, such as Botox or dermal fillers, on patients' faces to change or improve their physical appearance. Current law prohibits dentists from performing cosmetic procedures, other than those related to the mouth or jaw.

The bill eliminates the requirement that dentists must remain on-site when delegating to a dental assistant the taking of dental x-rays.

By law, dentists' continuing education (CE) must include, every two years, one contact hour in any three of certain topics set by the Department of Public Health (DPH) commissioner in consultation with the state dental commission. Under the bill, starting with CE registration periods beginning on or after October 1, 2026, DPH, in consultation with the commission, must expand the list from 10 to 12 items and must add to it (1) providing dental care to people with intellectual or developmental disability and (2) identifying victims of human trafficking. By law, dentists generally must complete 25 contact hours of CE every two years, starting with their second license renewal.

The bill also makes technical and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026, except July 1, 2026, for the CE provisions.

DENTAL ASSISTANTS TAKING X-RAYS

By law, dentists can delegate the taking of dental x-rays to dental assistants who meet certain examination requirements. The bill eliminates the requirement that this happens only under the dentist's direction supervision, removing the need for the dentist to remain on-

site while the assistant takes x-rays. Similar to current law, it requires the dentist to approve the assistant's taking of x-rays and assume responsibility for the assistant doing so.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 30 Nay 1 (03/09/2026)