

1 AN ACT concerning dentistry.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,  
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Illinois Dental Practice Act is amended  
5 by changing Section 18 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 25/18) (from Ch. 111, par. 2318)  
7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2006)

8 Sec. 18. Acts Constituting the Practice of Dental  
9 Hygiene. Limitations. A dental hygienist may be employed or  
10 engaged only:

- 11 (a) Under the supervision of a dentist:
  - 12 (1) In the office of a dentist;
  - 13 (2) By a federal, State, county or municipal  
14 agency or institution;
  - 15 (3) By a public or private school; or
  - 16 (4) By a public clinic operating under the  
17 direction of a hospital or federal, State, county,  
18 municipal or other public agency or institution.

19 When employed or engaged pursuant to this paragraph (a) a  
20 dental hygienist may perform the following procedures and  
21 acts:

- 22 (i) the operative procedure of dental hygiene,  
23 consisting of oral prophylactic procedures;
- 24 (ii) the exposure and processing of X-Ray  
25 films of the teeth and surrounding structures;
- 26 (iii) the application to the surfaces of the  
27 teeth or gums of chemical compounds designed to be  
28 desensitizing agents or effective agents in the  
29 prevention of dental caries or periodontal disease;
- 30 (iv) all services which may be performed by a  
31 dental assistant as specified by rule pursuant to

1 Section 17;

2 (v) administration and monitoring of nitrous  
3 oxide upon successful completion of a training  
4 program approved by the Department;

5 (vi) administration of local anesthetics upon  
6 successful completion of a training program approved  
7 by the Department; and

8 (vii) such other procedures and acts as shall  
9 be prescribed by rule or regulation of the  
10 Department.

11 (b) Under the general supervision of a dentist in a  
12 long-term care facility licensed by the State of  
13 Illinois, or a mental health or developmental disability  
14 facility operated by the Department of Human Services, if  
15 the patient is unable to travel to a dental office  
16 because of illness or infirmity. The dentist shall  
17 personally examine and diagnose the patient and determine  
18 which services are necessary to be performed, which shall  
19 be contained in a written order to the hygienist. Such  
20 order must be implemented within 120 90 days of its  
21 issuance, and an updated medical history and oral  
22 inspection must be performed by the hygienist immediately  
23 prior to beginning the procedures to ensure that the  
24 patient's health has not changed in any manner to warrant  
25 a reexamination by the dentist.

26 (c) Without the supervision of a dentist, a dental  
27 hygienist may perform dental health education functions  
28 and may record case histories and oral conditions  
29 observed.

30 The number of dental hygienists practicing in a dental  
31 office shall not exceed, at any one time, 4 times the number  
32 of dentists practicing in the office at the time.

33 (Source: P.A. 91-594, eff. 1-1-00; 91-689, eff. 1-1-01.)