

SENATE BILL 414

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2003 Regular Session
3r1739
CF 3r1301

By: **Senator Pinsky**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2003

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Dentists and Dental Hygienists - Licensure - Examination Requirements**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the examination requirements for licensure as a dentist
4 or dental hygienist for dentists and dental hygienists licensed in another state;
5 requiring a dentist or dental hygienist licensed in another state who applies for
6 a general license to practice dentistry or dental hygiene in this State to provide
7 adequate evidence that the dentist or dental hygienist holds a license to practice
8 dentistry or dental hygiene in another state after passing an exam other than a
9 regional board that is similar to the exam for which the applicant is seeking
10 waiver; defining certain terms; and generally relating to examination
11 requirements for the licensure of dentists and dental hygienists.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article - Health Occupations
14 Section 4-306
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
18 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article - Health Occupations**

20 4-306.

21 (a) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
22 INDICATED.

23 (2) "NERB" MEANS THE NORTH EAST REGIONAL BOARD OF DENTAL
24 EXAMINERS, INC.

25 (3) "PASSED A REGIONAL BOARD" MEANS AN APPLICANT EARNED A
26 SCORE OF 75% IN EACH DISCIPLINE, CLINICAL SKILL, PROCEDURE, OR KNOWLEDGE
27 AREA THAT IS TESTED ON THE NERB EXAMINATION USING THE INTERNAL

1 WEIGHTING AND SCORING METHODS THE NERB USES TO SCORE THE NERB'S
2 EXAMINATION OF DENTISTRY OR DENTAL HYGIENE, RESPECTIVELY.

3 (4) "REGIONAL BOARD" MEANS AN EXAMINATION OFFERED BY ANY OF
4 THE FOLLOWING DENTAL EXAMINATION ORGANIZATIONS:

5 (I) THE CENTRAL REGIONAL DENTAL TESTING SERVICE CREDITS;

6 (II) THE NORTH EAST REGIONAL BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS,
7 INC.;

8 (III) THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL TESTING AGENCY, INC.; AND

9 (IV) THE WESTERN REGIONAL EXAMINING BOARD, INC.

10 (B) (1) (I) A dentist licensed in any other state who[, for 5 preceding
11 years, has been actively engaged in practicing dentistry] HAS PASSED A REGIONAL
12 BOARD shall be granted a license in this State [after passing] IF THE APPLICANT
13 PASSES THE FOLLOWING [an examination] EXAMINATIONS given BY OR
14 DESIGNATED by the Board:

15 1. A COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION ON APPLIED CLINICAL
16 DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT PLANNING; AND

17 2. A LAW EXAMINATION.

18 (II) A DENTIST LICENSED IN ANY OTHER STATE WHO HAS NOT
19 PASSED A REGIONAL BOARD SHALL BE GRANTED A LICENSE IN THIS STATE IF:

20 1. FOR THE 5 PRECEDING YEARS THE DENTIST HAS BEEN
21 ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN PRACTICING DENTISTRY; AND

22 2. THE APPLICANT PASSES THE FOLLOWING EXAMINATIONS
23 GIVEN BY OR DESIGNATED BY THE BOARD:

24 A. A COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION ON APPLIED CLINICAL
25 DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT PLANNING; AND

26 B. A LAW EXAMINATION.

27 (2) (I) A dental hygienist licensed in any other state who[, for 3
28 preceding years, has been actively engaged in practicing dental hygiene] HAS PASSED
29 A REGIONAL BOARD shall be granted a license in this State [after passing] IF THE
30 APPLICANT PASSES an examination given by the Board.

31 (II) A DENTAL HYGIENIST LICENSED IN ANY OTHER STATE WHO
32 HAS NOT PASSED A REGIONAL BOARD SHALL BE GRANTED A LICENSE IN THIS STATE
33 IF:

34 1. FOR THE 3 PRECEDING YEARS THE DENTAL HYGIENIST
35 HAS BEEN ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN PRACTICING DENTAL HYGIENE; AND

1 THAN A REGIONAL BOARD that is similar to the examination for which the applicant
2 is seeking waiver;

3 (iii) Is not being investigated by a disciplinary authority of another
4 state, does not have charges pending against the applicant's license, and has not been
5 disciplined by a disciplinary or licensing authority of any other state or country, or
6 been convicted or disciplined by a court of any state or country for an act that would
7 be grounds for disciplinary action under § 4-315 of this subtitle; and

8 (iv) Has not previously failed an examination for licensure as a
9 dental hygienist in this State.

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
11 October 1, 2003.