

SENATE BILL 611

J2

(2lr1264)

ENROLLED BILL

— *Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs/Health and Government
Operations* —

Introduced by **Senators Beidle, Elfreth, and Reilly**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this
_____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Board of Dental Examiners – ~~Membership~~, Training, and Disciplinary**
3 **Processes – Revisions**

4 FOR the purpose of ~~altering provisions of the Dental Practice Act related to nominations~~
5 ~~and qualifications of members of the State Board of Dental Examiners~~; establishing
6 ~~Board member~~ training requirements *for members of the State Board of Dental*
7 *Examiners*; establishing and codifying Board disciplinary processes related to the
8 issuance of final decisions and summary suspensions of licenses; and generally
9 relating to the State Board of Dental Examiners.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

11 Article – Health Occupations

12 Section 4-202(a) and (b)

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 (2021 Replacement Volume)

2 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 3 Article – Health Occupations
 4 Section ~~4–202(a) and (b)~~, 4–205(c), and 4–318
 5 Annotated Code of Maryland
 6 (2021 Replacement Volume)

7 BY adding to
 8 Article – Health Occupations
 9 Section 4–318.1
 10 Annotated Code of Maryland
 11 (2021 Replacement Volume)

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

14 **Article – Health Occupations**

15 4–202.

16 (a) (1) The Board consists of 16 members.

17 (2) Of the 16 Board members:

18 (i) 9 shall be licensed dentists;

19 (ii) 4 shall be licensed dental hygienists; and

20 (iii) 3 shall be consumer members.

21 ~~(3) OF THE 9 LICENSED DENTIST MEMBERS:~~

22 ~~(i) EACH OF THE BUSINESS MODELS USED BY DENTISTS IN THE~~
 23 ~~STATE MUST BE REPRESENTED; AND~~

24 ~~(ii) AT LEAST 2 MUST SERVE PATIENTS WHO RECEIVE DENTAL~~
 25 ~~SERVICES THROUGH THE MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.~~

26 ~~(4) OF THE 3 CONSUMER MEMBERS, TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, 1~~
 27 ~~MAY BE RECEIVING, OR HAVE RECEIVED, DENTAL CARE THROUGH THE MARYLAND~~
 28 ~~MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.~~

29 ~~[(3)] (5)~~ (i) Subject to subsection (b)(1) of this section, the Governor
 30 shall appoint the dentist Board members, with the advice of the Secretary and the advice
 31 and consent of the Senate, from a list of names submitted to the Governor by the Board.

1 (ii) The number of names on the list for one vacancy shall be at least
 2 four names, for two vacancies at least three names for each vacancy, and for three or more
 3 vacancies at least two names for each vacancy.

4 ~~[(4)] (6)~~ (i) Subject to subsection (b)(2) of this section, the Governor
 5 shall appoint the dental hygienist Board members, with the advice of the Secretary and the
 6 advice and consent of the Senate, from a list of names submitted to the Governor by the
 7 Board.

8 (ii) The number of names on the list shall be ~~AT LEAST~~ four times
 9 the number of vacancies.

10 ~~[(5)] (7)~~ The Governor shall appoint the consumer members with the
 11 advice of the Secretary and the advice and consent of the Senate.

12 ~~[(6)] (8)~~ To the extent practicable, the members appointed to the Board
 13 shall reasonably reflect the geographic, racial, ethnic, cultural, and gender diversity of the
 14 State.

15 (b) (1) For each licensed dentist vacancy, the Board shall:

16 (i) Send by electronic mail or regular mail a solicitation for
 17 nominations to fill the vacancy to:

- 18 1. Each dentist licensed by the Board; ~~and~~
- 19 2. Each State dental organization affiliated with a national
 20 organization; and

21 ~~3. ANY OTHER PROFESSIONAL DENTAL ORGANIZATION~~
 22 ~~THAT REPRESENTS AT LEAST 25 LICENSED DENTISTS; AND~~

23 (ii) ~~Conduct a balloting process by which each dentist licensed by~~
 24 ~~the State is eligible to vote to select] SUBMIT~~ the names of the licensed dentists ~~[to be~~
 25 ~~submitted] FOR WHICH THE BOARD RECEIVES NOMINATIONS UNDER ITEM (1) OF THIS~~
 26 ~~PARAGRAPH~~ to the Governor.

27 (2) For each licensed dental hygienist vacancy, the Board shall:

28 (i) Send by electronic mail or regular mail a solicitation for
 29 nominations to fill the vacancy to:

- 30 1. Each dental hygienist licensed by the Board; ~~and~~

1 2. Each State dental hygienist organization affiliated with a
2 national organization; and

3 ~~3. ANY OTHER DENTAL HYGIENIST ORGANIZATION THAT~~
4 ~~REPRESENTS AT LEAST 25 LICENSED DENTAL HYGIENISTS; AND~~

5 (ii) ~~Conduct a balloting process by which each dental hygienist~~
6 ~~licensed by the State is eligible to vote to select; SUBMIT~~ the names of the licensed dental
7 hygienists ~~[to be submitted] FOR WHICH THE BOARD RECEIVES NOMINATIONS UNDER~~
8 ~~ITEM (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH~~ to the Governor.

9 ~~(3) The Board shall develop guidelines for the solicitation of nominations~~
10 ~~and balloting process that to the extent possible will result in the overall composition of the~~
11 ~~Board reasonably reflecting the geographic, racial, ethnic, and gender diversity of the~~
12 ~~State.]~~

13 4-205.

14 (c) (1) In addition to the duties set forth elsewhere in this title, the Board
15 shall:

16 [(1)] (I) Keep a record of each license and each action taken under §
17 4-315 of this title;

18 [(2)] (II) Have an official seal; [and]

19 (III) **BE TRAINED FOR AT LEAST 1 HOUR EACH YEAR ON THE**
20 **POWERS, DUTIES, AND PROCEDURES, INCLUDING COMPLAINT AND HEARING**
21 **PROCEDURES, OF THE BOARD; AND**

22 [(3)] (IV) Adopt rules, regulations, and bylaws as may be necessary to
23 carry out the provisions of this title.

24 (2) **TO BE DETERMINED TO BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE TRAINING**
25 **REQUIREMENT UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(III) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE BOARD**
26 **SHALL:**

27 (I) **SELECT AN ATTORNEY, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE**
28 **MARYLAND STATE BAR ASSOCIATION, WITH THE APPROPRIATE EXPERTISE TO**
29 **PROVIDE THE TRAINING TO THE BOARD;**

30 (II) **REQUIRE EACH MEMBER OF THE BOARD TO ATTEND THE**
31 **TRAINING AND RECEIVE DOCUMENTATION OF COMPLETION FROM THE ATTORNEY**
32 **PROVIDING THE TRAINING; AND**

1 **(III) INCLUDE A SUMMARY OF THE TRAINING AND ATTENDANCE**
2 **IN THE BOARD'S ANNUAL REPORT.**

3 4-318.

4 (a) Except as otherwise provided in the Administrative Procedure Act, before the
5 Board takes any action under § 4-315 of this subtitle, it shall give the individual against
6 whom the action is contemplated an opportunity for a hearing before the Board.

7 (b) The Board shall give notice and hold the hearing in accordance with the
8 Administrative Procedure Act.

9 (c) In accordance with the State budget, the Board may authorize payment of fees
10 and travel expenses of witnesses who testify in a proceeding under this section.

11 (d) The individual may be represented at the hearing by counsel.

12 (e) The Board may administer oaths and take depositions of witnesses in any
13 proceeding under this section.

14 (f) (1) Over the signature of an officer or the administrator of the Board, the
15 Board may issue subpoenas and administer oaths to witnesses in connection with any
16 investigation under this title and any hearings or proceedings before it.

17 (2) The Board shall issue subpoenas on behalf of the individual if the
18 individual requests in writing that the Board do so.

19 (3) If, without lawful excuse, a person disobeys a subpoena from the Board
20 or an order by the Board to take an oath or to testify or answer a question, then, on petition
21 of the Board, a court of competent jurisdiction may punish the person as for contempt of
22 court.

23 (4) If, without lawful excuse, an individual disobeys a subpoena from the
24 Board or an order by the Board to take an oath, testify, or answer a question, on petition of
25 the Board, a court of competent jurisdiction may compel compliance with the subpoena.

26 (g) If after due notice the individual against whom the action is contemplated fails
27 or refuses to appear, nevertheless the Board may hear and determine the matter.

28 **(H) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN § 4-318.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE**
29 **BOARD SHALL ISSUE A FINAL DECISION ON AN ACTION WITHIN 120 DAYS AFTER THE**
30 **FINAL DAY OF A HEARING.**

31 **(2) IF THE BOARD DOES NOT ISSUE A FINAL DECISION WITHIN 120**
32 **DAYS UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE INDIVIDUAL WHO IS THE**
33 **SUBJECT OF THE ACTION MAY PROVIDE WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE BOARD THAT THE**

1 INDIVIDUAL HAS NOT RECEIVED A FINAL DECISION IN ACCORDANCE WITH
2 PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

3 (3) IF THE BOARD DOES NOT ISSUE A FINAL DECISION ON AN ACTION
4 WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER RECEIVING A WRITTEN NOTICE UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF
5 THIS SUBSECTION, THE FINAL DECISION SHALL BE IN FAVOR OF THE INDIVIDUAL
6 WHO IS THE SUBJECT OF THE ACTION.

7 4-318.1.

8 (A) THE BOARD MAY ORDER THE SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF A LICENSE IF
9 THE BOARD DETERMINES THERE IS A SUBSTANTIAL LIKELIHOOD THAT A LICENSEE
10 POSES A RISK OF HARM TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, OR WELFARE.

11 (B) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION,
12 BASED ON INFORMATION GATHERED DURING AN INVESTIGATION OR OTHERWISE
13 PROVIDED TO THE BOARD, THE BOARD SHALL ISSUE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO
14 SUMMARILY SUSPEND A LICENSE BEFORE EXECUTING AN ORDER OF SUMMARY
15 SUSPENSION THAT INCLUDES:

16 (I) A PROPOSED ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION, THAT IS
17 UNEXECUTED AND INCLUDES:

18 1. THE STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THE PROPOSED
19 ACTION;

20 2. THE FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS ON WHICH THE BOARD
21 HAS BASED ITS DETERMINATION THAT THERE IS A SUBSTANTIAL LIKELIHOOD THAT
22 THE LICENSEE POSES A RISK OF HARM TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, OR
23 WELFARE; AND

24 3. NOTICE TO THE LICENSEE OF THE RIGHT TO REQUEST
25 A FULL HEARING ON THE MERITS OF THE SUMMARY SUSPENSION IF THE BOARD
26 EXECUTES THE PROPOSED ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION; AND

27 (II) AN ORDER OR A SUMMONS TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD
28 TO SHOW CAUSE WHY THE BOARD SHOULD NOT EXECUTE THE ORDER OF SUMMARY
29 SUSPENSION THAT PROVIDES NOTICE TO THE LICENSEE OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF
30 FAILING TO APPEAR.

31 (2) IF THE BOARD ISSUES A NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUMMARILY
32 SUSPEND A LICENSE, THE BOARD SHALL OFFER THE RESPONDENT THE
33 OPPORTUNITY TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD TO SHOW CAUSE AS TO WHY THE

1 RESPONDENT'S LICENSE SHOULD NOT BE SUSPENDED BEFORE THE BOARD
2 EXECUTES THE ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION.

3 (3) THE BOARD MAY ORDER THE SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF A
4 LICENSE WITHOUT FIRST ISSUING A NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUMMARILY SUSPEND A
5 LICENSE OR PROVIDING A LICENSEE WITH AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A
6 PRE-DEPRIVATION HEARING IF:

7 (I) THE BOARD DETERMINES THAT THE PUBLIC HEALTH,
8 SAFETY, AND WELFARE REQUIRE THE IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION OF THE LICENSE
9 WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD; AND

10 (II) THE LICENSEE IS PROVIDED WITH AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A
11 HEARING BEFORE THE BOARD AT THE BOARD'S NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED
12 MEETING BUT NOT TO EXCEED 30 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THE LICENSEE'S
13 REQUEST.

14 (C) THE BOARD SHALL ISSUE A FINAL DECISION ON A SUMMARY
15 SUSPENSION WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE FINAL DAY OF AN EVIDENTIARY HEARING
16 HELD UNDER § 4-318 OF THIS SUBTITLE, IF APPLICABLE.

17 (D) (1) IF THE BOARD ISSUES A NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUMMARILY
18 SUSPEND A LICENSE BEFORE SUMMARILY SUSPENDING A LICENSE, AFTER THE
19 SHOW CAUSE HEARING UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(2) OF THIS SECTION, THE BOARD
20 MAY VOTE TO:

21 (I) ORDER A SUMMARY SUSPENSION;

22 (II) DENY THE SUMMARY SUSPENSION;

23 (III) ENTER INTO AN ORDER AGREED ON BY THE PARTIES; OR

24 (IV) ENTER INTO ANY INTERIM ORDER WARRANTED BY THE
25 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CASE, INCLUDING AN ORDER TO STAY THE SUMMARY
26 SUSPENSION SUBJECT TO SPECIFIED CONDITIONS.

27 (2) IF THE BOARD ORDERS A SUMMARY SUSPENSION BEFORE A SHOW
28 CAUSE HEARING UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(2) OF THIS SECTION, AT THE CONCLUSION
29 OF A SUBSEQUENT HEARING, THE BOARD MAY VOTE TO:

30 (I) AFFIRM ITS ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION;

31 (II) RESCIND THE ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION;

1 (III) ENTER INTO AN ORDER AGREED ON BY THE PARTIES; OR

2 (IV) ENTER INTO ANY INTERIM ORDER WARRANTED BY THE
3 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CASE, INCLUDING AN ORDER TO STAY THE SUMMARY
4 SUSPENSION SUBJECT TO SPECIFIED CONDITIONS.

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
6 October 1, 2022.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.