

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0100

Denturist practice.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Winter, Laursen, Oakley,  
Ottman and Sommers and Senator(s) Cooper

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to professions and occupations; amending  
2 dentists and dental hygienists licensing statutes to  
3 include denturists; increasing the number of board members  
4 as specified; amending requirements relating to permissible  
5 supervised work by specified persons; amending other laws  
6 relating to dentists and dental hygienists to include  
7 denturists as specified; and providing for an effective  
8 date.

9

10 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

11

12 **Section 1.** W.S. 1-1-129(a)(i)(D), 33-15-101(a), (c)  
13 and (e), 33-15-108(h), 33-15-109(a) and (b), 33-15-111,  
14 33-15-114(a)(xii) and (b)(intro), 33-15-115(a)(ii) through  
15 (iv) and by creating a new paragraph (v), 33-15-117,

1 33-15-119, 33-15-120(a) and (c) through (e),  
 2 33-15-121(a)(intro), (i), (iv) and (v), 33-15-128(a)(ii),  
 3 (xii)(A) through (C), (xiii), by creating new paragraphs  
 4 (xvii) and (xviii) and by renumbering (xvii) as (xix),  
 5 33-15-131(d)(i), (ii)(A), (B), (iii)(A), (B), (iv)(A), (B),  
 6 (e) and (g) through (j), 33-15-133(a) and 40-28-102(a)(iv)  
 7 are amended to read:

8

9 **1-1-129. Immunity from liability for volunteer health**  
 10 **care professionals; insurance required of nonprofit health**  
 11 **care facility.**

12

13 (a) As used in this section:

14

15 (i) "Health care professional" means any of the  
 16 following who provide medical or dental diagnosis, care or  
 17 treatment:

18

19 (D) Dentists, ~~and~~ dental hygienists and  
 20 denturists licensed to practice as provided in title 33,  
 21 chapter 15 of the Wyoming statutes; and

22

23 **33-15-101. Board of dental examiners; generally.**

1

2 (a) The board shall carry out the purposes and  
3 enforce the provisions of this act. The board shall consist  
4 of ~~six (6)~~ seven (7) members appointed by the governor with  
5 the advice and consent of the state senate. Appointments  
6 made between sessions of the legislature shall be made in  
7 accordance with W.S. 28-12-101. The interim appointments  
8 are not considered a term for the purposes of subsection  
9 (c) of this section, relating to reappointment to the  
10 board.

11

12 (c) No person is eligible to membership on the board  
13 who is not legally qualified to practice; who has not  
14 engaged in the active practice of dentistry in the state of  
15 Wyoming for at least five (5) continuous years immediately  
16 prior to appointment; who does not at the time of his  
17 appointment hold a certificate entitling him to practice  
18 dentistry in the state of Wyoming; and who is not a  
19 resident of the state of Wyoming. One (1) appointed member  
20 of the board shall be a dental hygienist who has the  
21 qualifications provided in this act. One (1) appointed  
22 member of the board shall be a denturist who has the  
23 qualifications provided in this act. No member shall

1 succeed himself in office for more than two (2) successive  
2 terms.

3

4 (e) Appointments by the governor to the board shall  
5 be made from a list of recommended names submitted by the  
6 Wyoming Dental Association, ~~and~~ Wyoming Dental Hygiene  
7 Association and the Wyoming State Denturist Association as  
8 follows:

9

10 (i) The Wyoming Dental Association shall,  
11 through its secretary, present to the governor within  
12 fifteen (15) days after its regular annual meeting a list  
13 of the names of not less than ten (10) candidates from  
14 which appointments for vacancies on the board occurring  
15 during the ensuing year shall be made; ~~and~~

16

17 (ii) The Wyoming Dental Hygiene Association  
18 shall, through its secretary, present to the governor  
19 within fifteen (15) days after its regular annual meeting a  
20 list of not less than three (3) candidates from which  
21 appointments for vacancies on the board occurring during  
22 the ensuing year shall be made; ~~and~~ and

23

1           (iii) The Wyoming State Denturist Association  
2 shall, through its secretary, present to the governor  
3 within fifteen (15) days after its regular annual meeting a  
4 list of not less than three (3) candidates from which  
5 appointments for vacancies on the board occurring during  
6 the ensuing year shall be made.

7  
8           **33-15-108. Licensing; qualifications; examinations;**  
9 **fees.**

10  
11           (h) The board may make and prescribe rules and  
12 regulations for the licensure and practice of dentistry in  
13 the state of Wyoming, not inconsistent with this act. For  
14 purposes of this subsection, "practice of dentistry"  
15 includes the work of dental hygienists, denturists, dental  
16 auxiliaries, dental technicians and dental laboratories.

17  
18           **33-15-109. Renewal license certificate.**

19  
20           (a) On or before December 31 each year, each dentist  
21 and denturist licensed to practice dentistry in this state  
22 and wishing to continue in the practice of dentistry shall  
23 submit a license renewal application with the applicable

1 renewal fee. Any license granted by the board shall be  
2 cancelled after ten (10) days notice by registered mail if  
3 the holder fails to secure the renewal certificate within  
4 three (3) months after December 31 each year.

5  
6 (b) Any dentist or denturist whose application for  
7 renewal indicates that the dentist or denturist has not  
8 actively practiced dentistry or engaged in teaching  
9 dentistry, ~~or~~ dental hygiene or denturistry for the  
10 preceding five (5) years shall be issued a renewal  
11 certificate only after demonstrating to the board that the  
12 dentist or denturist has maintained the qualifications set  
13 forth in this act. The board may require reexamination if  
14 it finds good cause to believe that the person has not  
15 maintained the professional ability and knowledge required  
16 of an original licensee.

17

18 **33-15-111. List of licensees filed with board office.**

19

20 The board shall annually publish a list of all dentists,  
21 ~~and~~ dental hygienists and denturists licensed under this  
22 act. The list shall contain the name and address of each  
23 dentist, ~~and~~ dental hygienist and denturist and such other

1 information as the board deems advisable. The board office  
2 shall furnish copies to the public upon request or by  
3 access to the board's website.

4

5 **33-15-114. Persons deemed to be practicing dentistry;**  
6 **work authorizations from licensed dentist.**

7

8 (a) Except as provided by paragraph (xii) of this  
9 subsection, any person is deemed to be practicing dentistry  
10 within the meaning of this act:

11

12 (xii) A dental laboratory, ~~or~~ dental technician  
13 or denturist is not practicing dentistry within the meaning  
14 of this act when engaged in the construction, making,  
15 alteration or repairing of bridges, crowns, dentures or  
16 other prosthetic or surgical appliances, or orthodontic  
17 appliances if the casts or molds or impressions upon which  
18 the work is constructed have been made by a regularly  
19 licensed and practicing dentist or denturist, and if all  
20 crowns, bridges, dentures or prosthetic appliances,  
21 surgical appliances or orthodontic appliances are returned  
22 to the dentist upon whose order the work is constructed.

23

1           (b) Any licensed dentist who employs or engages the  
2 service of any person, firm or corporation outside of the  
3 dental office to construct, reproduce, make, alter or  
4 repair bridges, crowns, dentures or other prosthetic,  
5 surgical or orthodontic appliances shall furnish the person  
6 with a written work authorization on forms prescribed by  
7 the board, which contain:

8

9           **33-15-115. Persons to whom chapter inapplicable.**

10

11           (a) Nothing in this act contained applies:

12

13                   (ii) To a legally qualified dentist, dental  
14 hygienist or ~~dentist~~denturist engaged in full-time duties  
15 with the United States armed forces, public health service,  
16 veterans administration or other federal agencies;

17

18                   (iii) To a legally qualified ~~dental hygienist or~~  
19 dentist, dental hygienist or denturist of another state  
20 making a clinical demonstration before a meeting of  
21 dentists or dental auxiliaries; or

22

1           (iv) To dental, ~~and~~ dental hygiene and  
 2 denturistry students actively enrolled in any American  
 3 Dental Association or other board approved accredited  
 4 dental or denturistry educational program performing  
 5 services as a part of the curriculum of that program under  
 6 the direct supervision of a Wyoming licensed dentist, ~~or~~  
 7 Wyoming licensed dental hygienist instructor or Wyoming  
 8 licensed denturist;-

9  
 10           (v) To denturistry students actively enrolled in  
 11 any educational institution approved by the board and  
 12 pursuing a major course of study in denturistry.

13  
 14           **33-15-117. Dental laboratory technicians and**  
 15 **denturists.**

16  
 17 Dentists may employ one (1) or more dental laboratory  
 18 technicians or denturists who work only under the direction  
 19 and supervision of the dentist and who shall not be  
 20 permitted under any circumstances to do any unsupervised  
 21 work upon any patient. Dental laboratory technicians and  
 22 denturists shall not be allowed to do laboratory work of  
 23 any kind except at the direction of dentists duly licensed

1 to practice, and then only upon written prescription issued  
2 by the dentists if the dental laboratory work is completed  
3 outside the dental office.

4

5 **33-15-119. Dental hygienists and denturists;**  
6 **generally.**

7

8 Any dentist authorized to practice dentistry within the  
9 state may employ dental hygienists and denturists who shall  
10 be examined and possess the qualifications provided in this  
11 act. A dental hygienist and denturist may perform any  
12 services for a patient which are consistent with what the  
13 dental hygienists and denturists are trained to do in  
14 accredited dental hygiene or denturistry schools accredited  
15 by the commission on dental accreditation of the American  
16 Dental Association, the National Denturist Association or  
17 other board approved education program. Hygienists and  
18 denturists shall not perform any other operation on the  
19 teeth or mouth and shall be regulated by the rules and  
20 regulations promulgated by the board. The above services  
21 shall be performed under the supervision of a licensed  
22 dentist. Dental hygienists and denturists shall practice in  
23 the office of any licensed dentist, or in any public or

1 private institution under the supervision of a licensed  
2 dentist. The board may revoke or suspend the license of any  
3 dentist who permits any dental hygienist or denturist  
4 operating under his supervision to perform any operations  
5 or functions other than those permitted under this act.

6

7 **33-15-120. Dental hygienists and denturists;**  
8 **qualifications; examination; fees and license.**

9

10 (a) Any person who has a background that does not  
11 evidence conduct adverse to the practice of dental hygiene  
12 or denturistry or to the ability to practice dental hygiene  
13 who is or denturistry and meets the following qualifications  
14 may apply to the board to have the person's qualifications  
15 considered for licensure to practice dental hygiene or  
16 denturistry as follows:

17

18 (i) An applicant for licensure as a dental  
19 hygienist shall be a graduate of a dental hygiene program  
20 accredited by the commission on dental accreditation of the  
21 American Dental Association, ~~who has passed~~ or other board  
22 approved educational program, shall pass in a manner  
23 satisfactory to the board the dental hygiene national board

1 examination administered by the joint commission on  
2 national dental examinations of the American Dental  
3 Association and ~~who passes~~ shall pass any clinical board  
4 accepted by the board. ~~may apply to the board to have the~~  
5 ~~person's qualifications considered for licensure to~~  
6 ~~practice dental hygiene.~~ Applicants shall be required to  
7 pass a written examination satisfactory to the board~~;~~

8  
9 (ii) An applicant for licensure as a denturist  
10 shall be a graduate of a denturist program certified by the  
11 National Denturist Association or other board approved  
12 educational program, shall pass in a manner satisfactory to  
13 the board an examination for the practice of denturistry  
14 established by the National Denturist Association or other  
15 board approved examination and shall pass a clinical  
16 examination accepted by the board. Applicants shall be  
17 required to pass a written examination satisfactory to the  
18 board;

19  
20 (iii) Persons licensed to practice denturistry  
21 under the laws of any other state, territory of the United  
22 States, District of Columbia, or Puerto Rico, with  
23 substantially equivalent licensing standards to this

1 article applicable to denturistry shall be licensed without  
2 examination upon providing the board with the following:

3  
4 (A) Proof of successfully passing a written  
5 and clinical examination for denturistry in a state,  
6 territory of the United States, District of Columbia, or  
7 Puerto Rico, that the board has determined has  
8 substantially equivalent licensing standards as those in  
9 this article, including but not limited to both the written  
10 and clinical examination; and

11  
12 (B) An affidavit from the licensing agency  
13 where the person is licensed or certified attesting to the  
14 fact of the person's licensure or certification.

15  
16 (c) If the applicant successfully completes the  
17 requirements for licensure, the applicant shall be licensed  
18 as a dental hygienist or denturist. If the expanded duties  
19 applicant has successfully met the requirements for  
20 expanded duties, the applicant shall be certified in those  
21 expanded duties. The certificate issued by the board shall  
22 list the expanded duties which the hygienist or denturist  
23 is qualified and permitted to perform. On or before

1 December 31 each year, each dental hygienist and denturist  
2 licensed to practice dental hygiene or denturistry and  
3 wishing to continue in the practice of dental hygiene or  
4 denturity shall submit a license renewal application with  
5 the applicable renewal fee. The renewal certificate shall  
6 be made available to the supervising dentist. Any license  
7 granted by the board shall be cancelled after ten (10) days  
8 notice by registered mail if the holder fails to secure the  
9 renewal certificate within three (3) months after December  
10 31 each year. Any license cancelled may be restored by the  
11 board upon payment of a fee set by the board, if paid by  
12 December 31 of the year the license was cancelled.

13

14 (d) Any dental hygienist or denturist whose  
15 application for renewal indicates that the hygienist or  
16 denturist has not actively practiced or engaged in teaching  
17 dental hygiene ~~or engaged in teaching dental hygiene~~ or  
18 denturity for the preceding five (5) years shall be issued  
19 a renewal certificate only after demonstrating to the board  
20 that the hygienist or denturist has maintained the  
21 qualifications set forth in this act. The board may require  
22 reexamination if it finds good cause to believe that the

1 person has not maintained the professional ability and  
2 knowledge required of an original licensee under this act.

3

4 (e) The board shall promulgate reasonable rules and  
5 regulations for the licensure and practice of dental  
6 hygienists ~~and the practice of dental hygiene~~ and  
7 denturist, and may prescribe continuing education  
8 requirements for renewal certificates and relicensure.

9

10 **33-15-121. Grounds and proceedings for suspension of,**  
11 **revocation of, or refusal to renew a license for a dental**  
12 **hygienist or denturist.**

13

14 (a) The board may refuse to issue or renew, or may  
15 suspend or revoke, the license of any dental hygienist or  
16 denturist for any of the following causes:

17

18 (i) Conviction of, entry of a plea of nolo  
19 contendere to or entry of a deferred prosecution agreement  
20 pursuant to W.S. 7-13-301 to a felony or misdemeanor that  
21 relates adversely to the practice of dental hygiene or  
22 denturistry or the ability to practice dental hygiene or  
23 denturistry;

1

2 (iv) Renting or loaning to another person the  
3 hygienist's or denturist's license or diploma to be used as  
4 a license or diploma for the other person;

5

6 (v) Being unfit or incompetent to practice  
7 dental hygiene or denturistry for any reason, including but  
8 not limited to:

9

10 (A) Inability to practice dental hygiene or  
11 denturistry with reasonable skill and safety because of  
12 physical or mental disability or the use of alcohol,  
13 prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs or other  
14 psychoactive substance; or

15

16 (B) Performance of unsafe dental hygiene  
17 practice or denturistry practice or failure to conform to  
18 the standards of acceptable professional dental hygiene  
19 practice or denturistry practice, whether or not actual  
20 injury results.

21

22 **33-15-128. Definitions.**

23

1 (a) As used in this act:

2

3 (ii) "Dentistry" means the healing art practiced  
4 by a dentist, dental hygienist or a denturist which is  
5 concerned with the examination, diagnosis, treatment,  
6 planning and care of conditions within the human oral  
7 cavity and its adjacent tissues and structures;

8

9 (xii) "Proprietor" includes any person who:

10

11 (A) Employs dentists, dental hygienists,  
12 denturists or dental auxiliaries in the operation of a  
13 dental office, except as defined in this act; or

14

15 (B) Places in the possession of a dentist,  
16 dental hygienist, denturist, ~~or~~ dental auxiliary or any  
17 other agent such dental material or equipment as may be  
18 necessary for the management of a dental office on the  
19 basis of a lease or any other agreement for compensation  
20 for the use of such material, equipment or offices; or

21

22 (C) Retains the ownership or control of  
23 dental equipment or material or office and makes the same

1 available in any manner for the use by dentists, dental  
2 hygienists, denturists, dental auxiliaries or any other  
3 agents, excepting that nothing in this subparagraph shall  
4 apply to bona fide sales of dental equipment or material  
5 secured by a chattel mortgage or retain-title agreement or  
6 the loan of articulators.

7

8 (xiii) "Expanded duties" means those patient's  
9 services which are beyond those regularly practiced by  
10 dental hygienists, denturists, ~~or~~ dental technicians or  
11 other dental auxiliary functions and which require  
12 additional education which shall be approved by the board  
13 of dental examiners of Wyoming and are to be performed  
14 under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist;

15

16 (xvii) "Denturist" means a person who is  
17 supervised by a dentist and is licensed to render removable  
18 oral prostheses services, education and dentistry services  
19 defined in this act, as well as other duties required in  
20 the practice of a denturist's duties;

21

22 (xviii) "Denturistry" means the practice of a  
23 denturist who, at the direction and supervision of a

1 licensed dentist, makes, provides, repairs or alters  
2 removable oral prosthetic appliances and other removable  
3 artificial devices that are inserted into the human mouth  
4 or that come into contact with the human mouth and its  
5 adjacent tissues and structures;

6

7 ~~(xvii)~~(xix) "This act" means W.S. 33-15-101  
8 through 33-15-133 and may be cited as the "Wyoming Dental  
9 Practice Act".

10

11 **33-15-131. Dentist, dental hygienist or denturist**  
12 **volunteer certificate.**

13

14 (d) An application for a volunteer's certificate  
15 shall include all of the following:

16

17 (i) A copy of the applicant's dentistry, ~~or~~  
18 dental hygienist or denturist degree;

19

20 (ii) One (1) of the following, as applicable:

21

22 (A) A copy of the applicant's most recent  
23 license or certificate authorizing the practice of

1 dentistry, ~~or~~ dental hygiene or denturistry issued by a  
2 jurisdiction in the United States that licenses persons to  
3 practice dentistry, ~~or~~ dental hygiene or denturistry; or  
4

5 (B) A copy of the applicant's most recent  
6 license equivalent to a license to practice dentistry, ~~or~~  
7 dental hygiene or denturistry in one (1) or more branches of  
8 the United States armed services that the United States  
9 government issued.

10

11 (iii) Evidence of one (1) of the following, as  
12 applicable:  
13

14

15 (A) That the applicant has maintained for  
16 at least ten (10) years immediately prior to retirement  
17 full licensure in good standing in any jurisdiction in the  
18 United States that licenses persons to practice as a  
19 dentist, ~~or~~ dental hygienist or denturist; or

20

21 (B) That the applicant has practiced for at  
22 least ten (10) years immediately prior to retirement in  
good standing as a dentist, ~~or~~ dental hygienist or

1 denturist in one (1) or more of the branches of the United  
2 States armed services; and

3

4 (iv) A notarized statement from the applicant,  
5 on a form prescribed by the board, that the applicant:

6

7 (A) Will not accept any form of  
8 remuneration for any dental, ~~or~~ dental hygiene or  
9 denturistry services rendered while in possession of a  
10 volunteer's certificate;

11

12 (B) Will devote his practice exclusively  
13 and totally to providing dental, ~~or~~ dental hygiene or  
14 denturistry services to low income uninsured persons at a  
15 nonprofit health care facility in this state; and

16

17 (e) The holder of a volunteer's certificate may  
18 provide dental, ~~or~~ dental hygiene or denturistry services  
19 only on the premises of a nonprofit health care facility in  
20 this state and only to low income uninsured persons. The  
21 holder shall not accept any form of remuneration for  
22 providing dental, ~~or~~ dental hygiene or denturistry services  
23 while in possession of the certificate. The board may

1 revoke a volunteer's certificate on receiving proof  
2 satisfactory to the board that the holder has engaged in  
3 practice in this state outside the scope of the  
4 certificate.

5  
6 (g) To be eligible for renewal of a volunteer's  
7 certificate, the holder of the certificate shall certify to  
8 the board completion of any continuing education required  
9 under this act as if the holder of the certificate were in  
10 active practice. The board shall not renew a certificate if  
11 the holder has not complied with the continuing education  
12 requirements. The nonprofit health care facility in which  
13 the holder provides dental, ~~or dental hygiene~~ or denturistry  
14 services may pay for or reimburse the holder for any costs  
15 incurred in obtaining the required continuing education.

16  
17 (h) The board shall issue to each person who  
18 qualifies under this section a volunteer's certificate that  
19 states the certificate holder is authorized to provide  
20 dental, ~~or dental hygiene~~ or denturistry services pursuant  
21 to the laws of this state.

22

1           (j) Except as provided in this section, any person  
2 holding a volunteer's certificate issued by the board under  
3 this section shall be subject to the requirements of this  
4 act and the jurisdiction of the board as if he were  
5 licensed to practice dentistry, ~~or~~ dental hygiene or  
6 denturistry under this act.

7

8           **33-15-133. Temporary educator's license.**

9

10           (a) A temporary license may be issued to any  
11 denturist, dentist or dental hygienist who has applied for  
12 licensure and who exhibits good standing in another  
13 jurisdiction of the United States or Canada and has  
14 qualified for the requirements to be employed as an  
15 instructor at a dental hygiene or denturist school.

16

17           **40-28-102. Medical digital innovation sandbox waiver;**  
18 **applicability of criminal statutes; referrals; civil**  
19 **liability.**

20

21           (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a  
22 person who makes an innovative medical digital assessment  
23 product or service available to consumers in the medical

1 digital innovation sandbox may be granted a waiver from  
2 specified requirements imposed by statute or rule, or  
3 portions thereof, if these statutes or rules do not  
4 currently permit the product or service to be made  
5 available to consumers. A waiver under this subsection  
6 shall be no broader than necessary to accomplish the  
7 purposes and standards set forth in this act, as determined  
8 by the department or the appropriate licensing board or  
9 authority under the chapters listed in this subsection.  
10 The statutes within the following chapters of title 33 of  
11 the Wyoming statutes, and the rules adopted under them, or  
12 portions thereof, may be waived by the department and the  
13 appropriate licensing boards or authorities, upon receipt  
14 and approval of an application made to the department  
15 pursuant to W.S. 40-28-103:

16

17 (iv) Chapter 15, dentists, ~~and~~ dental hygienists  
18 and denturists;

19

20 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2021.

21

22

(END)