

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2024 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 357

BY SENATORS TAKUBO, DEEDS, WOELFEL, AND

WOODRUM

[Introduced January 12, 2024; referred
to the Committee on Health and Human Resources]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §30-4-11 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
2 to the scope of practice of a dental hygienist; and permitting a dental hygienist to perform
3 tobacco cessation education.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 4. WEST VIRGINIA DENTAL PRACTICE ACT.

§30-4-11. Scope of practice for a dental hygienist.

The practice of dental hygiene includes the following:

- 1 (1) Perform a complete prophylaxis, including the removal of any deposit, accretion or
2 stain from supra and subgingival, the surface of a tooth or a restoration;
- 3 (2) Apply a medicinal agent to a tooth for a prophylactic purpose;
- 4 (3) Take a radiograph for interpretation by a dentist;
- 5 (4) Instruct a patient on proper oral hygiene practice;
- 6 (5) Place sealants on a patient's teeth without a prior examination by a licensed dentist:
7 *Provided*, That for this subdivision, the dental hygienist has a public health practice permit issued
8 by the board, and subject to a collaborative agreement with a supervising dentist and the patient
9 is referred for a dental examination within six months of sealant application;
- 10 (6) Perform all delegated procedures of a dental hygienist specified by rule by the board;
- 11 and
- 12 (7) Perform all delegated procedures of a dental assistant specified by rule by the board;
- 13 and
- 14 (8) Perform tobacco cessation education to patients to improve overall dental health.