

1 S.235

2 Introduced by Senator Mullin

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Health; dental health; dentists

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to authorize a
7 community dental health coordination pilot project and expand dental
8 education in the classroom.

9 An act relating to improving the oral health of Vermonters

10 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

11 Sec. 1. COMMUNITY DENTAL HEALTH COORDINATOR PILOT

12 (a) The Commissioner of Health, in consultation with the Vermont Oral
13 Health Coalition, shall design a Community Dental Health Coordinator Pilot
14 Project for the purpose of increasing access to oral health care by using
15 community dental health coordinators as members of dental teams in regions
16 of the State designated by the Commissioner. The Commissioner shall submit
17 design recommendations for the Pilot Project to the House Committee on
18 Health Care and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare on or before
19 January 15, 2015.

1 **(b) As used in this section:**

2 **(1) “Community dental health coordinator” means a dental assistant,**
3 **dental hygienist, or other trained dental professional certified by the**
4 **Commissioner of Health to provide educational services, preventive and**
5 **limited palliative care services, and dental assessment services in a variety of**
6 **settings under the supervision of a dentist licensed pursuant to 26 V.S.A.**
7 **§ 801.**

8 **(2) “Palliative care services” means nonsurgical, reversible procedures**
9 **used to alleviate pain and stabilize acute or emergent problems and may**
10 **include:**

11 **(A) placing temporary and sedative restorative material in**
12 **unexcavated carious lesions and unprepared tooth fractures;**

13 **(B) collecting and transmitting diagnostic data and images via a**
14 **telemetric connection;**

15 **(C) dispensing and applying medications on the specific order of a**
16 **dentist; and**

17 **(D) providing limited services for dental emergencies, in consultation**
18 **with a supervising dentist.**

19 **(3) “Supervision” means authorization by a dentist of procedures for a**
20 **community dental health coordinator to use in executing the dentist’s**
21 **treatment plan.**

1 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

2 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.