	3/23/2016 - BAW - 08:08 AM Key: Red strikethrough = language potentially removed from bill Yellow highlighting = language potentially added to bill DRAFT; NOT YET EDITED; FOR COMMITTEE DISCUSSION
1	TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:
2	The Committee on Human Services to which was referred Senate Bill
3	No. 20 entitled "An act relating to establishing and regulating dental
4	therapists" respectfully reports that it has considered the same and
5	recommends that the House propose to the Senate that the bill be amended by
6	striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the
7	following:
8	S.20
9	An act relating to establishing and regulating dental therapists
10	It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:
11	Sec. 1. 26 V.S.A. chapter 12 is amended to read:
12	CHAPTER 12. DENTISTS, <u>DENTAL THERAPISTS</u> , DENTAL
13	HYGIENISTS, AND DENTAL ASSISTANTS
14	Subchapter 1. General Provisions
15	§ 561. DEFINITIONS
16	As used in this chapter:
17	(1) "Board" means the board of dental examiners Board of Dental
18	Examiners.
19	(2) "Director" means the director of the office of professional regulation
20	<u>Director of the Office of Professional Regulation</u> .
21	(3) "Practicing dentistry" means an activity in which a person:

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dental therapist under this chapter.

dental hygienist under this chapter.

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(A) undertakes by any means or method to diagnose or profess to diagnose or to treat or profess to treat or to prescribe for or profess to prescribe for any lesions, diseases, disorders, for deficiencies of the human oral cavity, teeth, gingiva, maxilla, or mandible or adjacent associated structures; (B) extracts human teeth or corrects malpositions of the teeth or jaws; (C) furnishes, supplies, constructs, reproduces, or repairs prosthetic dentures, bridges, appliances, or other structures to be used or worn as substitutes for natural teeth or adjusts those structures, except on the written prescription of a duly licensed dentist and by the use of impressions or casts made by a duly licensed and practicing dentist; (D) administers general dental anesthetics; (E) administers local dental anesthetics, except dental hygienists as authorized by board Board rule; or (F) engages in any of the practices included in the curricula of recognized dental colleges. (4) "Dental therapist" means an individual licensed to practice as a

(5) "Dental hygienist" means an individual licensed to practice as a

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1	(5)(6) "Dental assistant" means an individual registered to practice as a
2	dental assistant under this chapter.
3	(6)(7) "Direct supervision" means supervision by a licensed dentist who
4	is readily available at the dental facility for consultation or intervention.
5	(8) "General supervision" means:
6	(A) the direct or indirect oversight of a dental therapist by a dentist,
7	which need not be on-site; or
8	(B) the direct or indirect oversight of a dental hygienist by a dentist
9	as prescribed by Board rule.
10	§ 562. PROHIBITIONS
11	(a) No person may use in connection with a name any words, including
12	"Doctor of Dental Surgery" or "Doctor of Dental Medicine," or any letters,
13	signs, or figures, including the letters "D.D.S." or "D.M.D.," which imply that
14	a person is a licensed dentist when not authorized under this chapter.
15	(b) No person may practice as a dentist, dental therapist, or dental hygienist
16	unless currently licensed to do so under the provisions of this chapter.
17	(c) No person may practice as a dental assistant unless currently registered
18	under the provisions of this chapter.
19	(d) A person who violates this section shall be subject to the penalties
20	provided in 3 V.S.A. § 127.

Comment [BAW1]: The term "general supervision" is already used re: DHs in § 624 of this chapter.

Yellow highlighting = language potentially added to bill DRAFT; NOT YET EDITED; FOR COMMITTEE DISCUSSION 1 2 § 565. DISPLAY OF LICENSE OR REGISTRATION 3 Every dentist, dental therapist, dental hygienist, and dental assistant shall 4 display a copy of his or her current license or registration at each place of 5 practice and in such a manner so as to be easily seen and read. 6 7 Subchapter 2. Board of Dental Examiners 8 § 581. CREATION; QUALIFICATIONS (a) The state board of dental examiners State Board of Dental Examiners is 9 10 created and shall consist of six licensed dentists in good standing who have 11 practiced in this state State for a period of five years or more and are in active practice; two licensed dental hygienists who have practiced in this state State 12 for a period of at least three years immediately preceding the appointment and 13 14 are in active practice; one registered dental assistant who has practiced in this state State for a period of at least three years immediately preceding the 15 appointment and is in active practice; and two members of the public who are 16 17 not associated with the practice of dentistry. 18 (b) Board members shall be appointed by the governor Governor pursuant 19 to 3 V.S.A. §§ 129b and 2004.

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Comment [BAW2]: Add DT representation to the Board? If so: What should be the min. practice qualification? Make it a future effective date? Add reference to them in subsection (c)?

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Yellow highlighting = language potentially added to bill DRAFT; NOT YET EDITED; FOR COMMITTEE DISCUSSION (c) No A member of the board may Board shall not be an officer or serve 1 2 on a committee of his or her respective state or local professional dental, dental 3 hygiene, or dental assisting organization, nor shall any member of the board be 4 on the faculty of a school of dentistry, dental hygiene, or dental assisting. 5 § 584. UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT 6 7 The board Board may refuse to give an examination or issue a license to 8 practice dentistry, to practice as a dental therapist, or to practice dental hygiene 9 or to register an applicant to be a dental assistant and may suspend or revoke 10 any such license or registration or otherwise discipline an applicant, licensee, 11 or registrant for unprofessional conduct. Unprofessional conduct means the 12 following conduct and the conduct set forth in 3 V.S.A. § 129a by an applicant 13 or person licensed or registered under this chapter: 14 (1) abandonment of a patient; 15 16 (2) rendering professional services to a patient if the dentist, dental 17 therapist, dental hygienist, or dental assistant is intoxicated or under the 18 influence of drugs; 19 (3) promotion of the sale of drugs, devices, appliances, goods, or

services provided for a patient in a manner to exploit the patient for financial

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Comment [BAW3]: Last phrase proposed to be removed via H.562 (OPR Bill), Sec. 16.

Comment [BAW4]: Add reference to DTs in the specific unprofessional conduct provisions.

See also the general unprofessional conduct provisions set forth in 3 V.S.A. § 129a that apply to all OPR licensees.

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1	gain or selling, prescribing, giving away, or administering drugs for other than
2	legal and legitimate therapeutic purposes;
3	(4) division of or agreeing to divide with any person for bringing or
4	referring a patient the fees received for providing professional services to the
5	patient;
6	(5) willful misrepresentation in treatments;
7	(6) practicing a profession regulated under this chapter with a dentist,
8	dental therapist, dental hygienist, or dental assistant who is not legally
9	practicing within the state State or aiding or abetting such practice;
10	(7) gross and deceptive overcharging for professional services on single
11	or multiple occasions, including filing of false statements for collection of fee
12	for which services are not rendered;
13	(8) permitting one's name, license, or registration to be used by a
14	person, group, or corporation when not actually in charge of or responsible for
15	the treatment given;
16	(9) practicing dentistry or maintaining a dental office in a manner so as
17	to endanger the health or safety of the public; or
18	(10) holding out to the public as being specially qualified or announcing
19	specialization in any branch of dentistry by using terms such as "specialist in"
20	or "practice limited to" unless:

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1	(A) the American Dental Association has formally recognized the
2	specialty and an appropriate certifying board for the specialty;
3	(B) the dentist has met the educational requirements and standards set
4	forth by the Commission on Dental Accreditation for the specialty; or
5	(C) the dentist is a diplomate of the specialty certifying board
6	recognized by the American Dental Association.
7	Subchapter 3A. Dental Therapists
8	§ 611. LICENSE BY EXAMINATION
9	(a) Qualifications for examination. To be eligible for examination for
10	licensure as a dental therapist, an applicant shall:
11	(1) have attained the age of majority:
12	(2) be a licensed dental hygienist;
13	(3) be a graduate of a dental therapist educational program administered
14	by an institution accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation to
15	train dentists, dental therapists, or dental hygienists; and
16	(4) pay the application fee set forth in section 662 of this chapter and an
17	examination fee established by the Board by rule.
18	(b) Completion of examination.
19	(1) An applicant for licensure meeting the qualifications for examination
20	set forth in subsection (a) of this section shall pass a comprehensive,

Comment [BAW5]: Require emergency office procedure course? If so, as a qualification for the exam?

Or, since a DT must be a licensed DH, is it adequate that a DH must have taken such a course for licensure by exam via § 621(4) or licensure by endorsement via § 622(2), and must also take such a course for renewal via § 661(e)?

Comment [BAW6]: According to CODA Director testimony on 3/23/16, CODA accreditation is available (as of Feb. 2015). Therefore, strike Sec. 2 (which states that the CODA accreditation requirement takes effect once it is available).

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1	competency-based clinical examination approved by the Board and
2	administered independently of an institution providing dental therapist
3	education. An applicant shall also pass an examination testing the applicant's
4	knowledge of the Vermont laws statutes and rules relating to the practice of
5	dentistry approved by the Board.
6	(2) An applicant who has failed the clinical examination twice is
7	ineligible to retake the clinical examination until further education and training
8	are obtained as established by the Board by rule.
9	(c) The Board may grant a license to an applicant who has met the
10	requirements of this section.
11	§ 612. LICENSE BY ENDORSEMENT
12	The Board may grant a license as a dental therapist to an applicant who:
13	(1) is currently licensed in good standing to practice as a dental therapist
14	in any jurisdiction of the United States or Canada that has licensing
15	requirements deemed by the Board to be at least substantially equivalent to
16	those of this State;
17	(2) has met active practice requirements and any other requirements
18	established by the Board by rule; and
19	(3) pays the application fee set forth in section 662 of this chapter.
20	§ 613. PRACTICE; SCOPE OF PRACTICE

Comment [BAW7]: Should persons licensed by endorsement be required to take the Vermont-specific exam that normal licensees would be required to take? *See* § 611(b)(1), above.

Is there a conflict that this type of licensee has to have licensing requirements at least substantially equivalent to VT, if standard VT licensees have to have the VT-specific exam?

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- (a) A person who provides oral health care services, including prevention, evaluation, and assessment; education; palliative therapy; and restoration under the general supervision of a dentist within the parameters of a collaborative agreement as provided under section 614 of this subchapter shall be regarded as practicing as a dental therapist within the meaning of this chapter.
- (b) Services performed by a dental therapist may only be performed in practice settings or areas with a significant volume of low-income, uninsured, or underserved patients, as shall be determined by the Department of Health, or in areas designated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as Health Professional Shortage Areas for dental care. In addition to services permitted by the Board by rule, a dental therapist may perform the following oral health care services:
- (1) Oral health instruction and disease prevention education, including nutritional counseling and dietary analysis.
 - (2) Periodontal charting, including a periodontal screening examination.
- 16 (3) Exposing radiographs.
- 17 (4) Dental prophylaxis.
- 18 (5) Prescribing, dispensing, and administering analgesics,
 - anti-inflammatories, and antibiotics.

Comment [BAW8]: Agree with this first sentence's geographic limitation?

If so, any change to Sec. 4's sunset of this limitation, currently scheduled for July 1, 2020?

Comment [BAW9]: Should there be a prohibition on prescribing, dispensing, or administering narcotics (if an analgesic can be a narcotic)?

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1	(6) Applying topical preventive or prophylactic agents, including
2	fluoride varnishes, antimicrobial agents, and pit and fissure sealants.
3	(7) Pulp vitality testing.
4	(8) Applying desensitizing medication or resin.
5	(9) Fabricating athletic mouthguards.
6	(10) Placement of temporary restorations.
7	(11) Fabricating soft occlusal guards.
8	(12) Tissue conditioning and soft reline.
9	(13) Interim therapeutic restorations.
10	(14) Changing periodontal dressings.
11	(15) Tooth reimplantation and stabilization.
12	(16) Administering local anesthetic.
13	(17) Administering nitrous oxide.
14	(18) Oral evaluation and assessment of dental disease.
15	(19) Formulating an individualized treatment plan, including services
16	within the dental therapist's scope of practice and referral for services outside
17	the dental therapist's scope of practice.
18	(20) Extractions of primary teeth.

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1	(21) Nonsurgical extractions of periodontally diseased permanent teeth
2	with tooth mobility of +3. A dental therapist shall not extract a tooth if it is
3	unerupted, impacted, fractured, or needs to be sectioned for removal.
4	(22) Emergency palliative treatment of dental pain.
5	(23) Placement and removal of space maintainers.
6	(24) Cavity preparation.
7	(25) Restoring primary and permanent teeth, not including permanent
8	tooth crowns, bridges, or denture fabrication.
9	(26) Placement of temporary crowns.
10	(27) Preparation and placement of preformed crowns.
11	(28) Pulpotomies on primary teeth.
12	(29) Indirect and direct pulp capping on primary and permanent teeth.
13	(30) Suture removal.
14	(31) Brush biopsies.
15	(32) Repairing defective prosthetic devices.
16	(33) Recementing permanent crowns.
17	(34) Mechanical polishing.
18	§ 614. COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT
19	(a) Before a dental therapist may enter into his or her first collaborative
20	agreement, he or she shall:

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1	(1) complete 1,000 hours of direct patient care using dental therapy
2	procedures under the direct supervision of a dentist; and
3	(2) receive a certificate of completion signed by that supervising dentist
4	that verifies the dental therapist completed the hours described in
5	subdivision (1) of this subsection.
6	(b) In order to practice as a dental therapist, a dental therapist shall enter
7	into a written collaborative agreement with a dentist. The agreement shall
8	include:
9	(1) practice settings where services may be provided and the populations
10	to be served;
11	(2) any limitations on the services that may be provided by the dental
12	therapist, including the level of supervision required by the supervising dentist;
13	(3) age- and procedure-specific practice protocols, including case
14	selection criteria, assessment guidelines, and imaging frequency;
15	(4) a procedure for creating and maintaining dental records for the
16	patients that are treated by the dental therapist;
17	(5) a plan to manage medical emergencies in each practice setting where
18	the dental therapist provides care;

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1	(6) a quality assurance plan for monitoring care provided by the dental		
2	therapist, including patient care review, referral follow-up, and a quality		
3	assurance chart review;		
4	(7) protocols for prescribing, administering, and dispensing medications,		
5	including the specific conditions and circumstances under which these		
6	medications may be dispensed and administered;		
7	(8) criteria relating to the provision of care to patients with specific		
8	medical conditions or complex medication histories, including requirements		
9	for consultation prior to the initiation of care;		
10	(9) supervision criteria of dental assistants and dental hygienists; and		
11	(10) a plan for the provision of clinical resources and referrals in		
12	situations that are beyond the capabilities of the dental therapist.		
13	(c)(1) The supervising dentist shall accept responsibility for all services		
14	authorized and performed by the dental therapist pursuant to the collaborative		
15	agreement.		
16	(2) A supervising dentist shall be licensed and practicing in Vermont.		
17	(3) A supervising dentist is limited to entering into a collaborative		
18	agreement with no more than two dental therapists at any one time.		
19	(d)(1) A collaborative agreement shall be signed and maintained by the		
20	supervising dentist and the dental therapist.		

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Comment [BAW10]: Via the SCOV's In re Porter, 192 Vt. 601 (2012), SCOV would likely consider "shall accept responsibility" to mean "professionally responsible" rather than "legally liable."

<u>Suggestion</u>: Use the terms "professionally responsible" or "legally liable" (or neither or both) to be consistent with caselaw.

"Professionally responsible" would mean that if DT commits unprofessional conduct, supervising dentist has also vicariously committed unprofessional conduct.

unprofessional conduct.

Committee intent? See 3 V.S.A. § 129a(a)(6) re: improper delegation.

"Legally liable" refers to tort liability, which could apply even if not included here, under common law tort liability.

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1	(2) A collaborative agreement shall be reviewed, updated, and submitted
2	to the Board on an annual basis or as soon as a change is made to the
3	agreement.
4	§ 615. APPLICATION OF OTHER LAWS
5	(a) A dental therapist authorized to practice under this chapter shall not be
6	in violation of section 562 of this chapter as it relates to the unauthorized
7	practice of dentistry if the practice is authorized under this chapter and under
8	the collaborative agreement.
9	(b) A dentist who permits a dental therapist to perform a dental service
10	other than those authorized under this chapter or by the Board by rule or any
11	dental therapist who performs an unauthorized service shall be in violation of
12	section 584 of this chapter.
13	§ 616. USE OF DENTAL HYGIENISTS AND DENTAL ASSISTANTS
14	(a) A licensed dental therapist may supervise dental assistants and dental
15	hygienists directly to the extent permitted in the collaborative agreement.
16	(b) At any one practice setting, a licensed dental therapist may have under
17	his or her direct supervision no more than a total of two assistants, hygienists,
18	or combination thereof.

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1	§ 617. REFERRALS
2	(a) The supervising dentist is responsible for arranging for another dentist
3	or specialist to provide any necessary services needed by a patient that are
4	beyond the scope of practice of the dental therapist and which the supervising
5	dentist is unable to provide.
6	(b) A dental therapist, in accordance with the collaborative agreement, shall
7	refer patients to another qualified dental or health care professional to receive
8	any needed services that exceed the scope of practice of the dental therapist.
9	***
10	Subchapter 6. Renewals, Continuing Education, and Fees
11	§ 661. RENEWAL OF LICENSE
12	(a) Licenses and registrations shall be renewed every two years on a
13	schedule determined by the office of professional regulation Office of
14	Professional Regulation.
15	(b) No continuing education reporting is required at the first biennial
16	license renewal date following licensure.
17	(c) The board Board may waive continuing education requirements for
18	licensees who are on active duty in the armed forces of the United States
19	U.S. Armed Forces.

Comment [BAW11]: Note that this applies to all dental professionals.

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(d) Dentists.

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- (e) <u>Dental therapists</u>. To renew a license, a dental therapist shall meet active practice requirements established by the Board by rule and document completion of no fewer than 20 hours of Board-approved continuing professional education which shall include an emergency office procedures course during the two-year licensing period preceding renewal.
- (f) Dental hygienists. To renew a license, a dental hygienist shall meet active practice requirements established by the board Board by rule and document completion of no fewer than 18 hours of board approved

 Board-approved continuing professional education which shall include an emergency office procedures course during the two-year licensing period preceding renewal.
 - (f)(g) Dental assistants. To renew a registration, a dental assistant shall meet the requirements established by the <u>board Board</u> by rule.
- 16 § 662. FEES
 - (a) Applicants and persons regulated under this chapter shall pay the following fees:
- 19 (1) Application
- 20 (A) Dentist \$ 225.00

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1	(B) <u>Dental therapist</u>	<u>\$ 185.00</u>
2	(C) Dental hygienist	\$ 150.00
3	(C)(D) Dental assistant	\$ 60.00
4	(2) Biennial renewal	
5	(A) Dentist	\$ 355.00
6	(B) <u>Dental therapist</u>	\$ 225.00
7	(C) Dental hygienist	\$ 125.00
8	(C)(D) Dental assistant	\$ 75.00
9	(b) The licensing fee for a dentist, dental therapist, or dental hygienist or	
10	the registration fee for a dental assistant who is otherwise eligible for licensure	
11	or registration and whose practice in this state State will be limited to	
12	providing pro bono services at a free or reduced-fee clinic or similar setting	
13	approved by the board Board shall be waived.	

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Yellow highlighting = language potentially added to bill DRAFT; NOT YET EDITED; FOR COMMITTEE DISCUSSION Sec. 2. COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION: EFFECTIVE 1 2 DATE 3 The provision set forth in Sec. 1 of this act, in 26 V.S.A. § 611(a)(3) (license by examination; graduate), that requires accreditation by the 4 Commission on Dental Accreditation, shall take effect once that accreditation 5 6 from the Commission becomes available. 7 Sec. 3. BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS; REPORT ON GEOGRAPHIC 8 DISTRIBUTION OF DENTAL THERAPISTS 9 No earlier than two years after the effective date of this act but on or before 10 January 1, 2020, the Board of Dental Examiners shall report to the Senate 11 Committees on Health and Welfare and on Government Operations and the 12 House Committees on Health Care and on Government Operations regarding: 13 (1) the geographic distribution of licensed dental therapists practicing in 14 this State; 15 (2) the geographic areas of this State that are underserved by licensed 16 dental therapists; and 17 (3) the Board's recommended incentives to promote the practice of 18 licensed dental therapists in underserved areas of this State, particularly those 19 areas that are rural in nature and have high numbers of people living 20 in poverty.

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Comment [BAW12]: According to CODA Director testimony on 3/23/16, CODA accreditation is available (as of Feb. 2015).

Comment [BAW13]: Should Board be required to make this report?

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Yellow highlighting = language potentially added to bill DRAFT; NOT YET EDITED; FOR COMMITTEE DISCUSSION 1 Sec. 4. 26 V.S.A. § 613 is amended to read: 2 § 613. PRACTICE; SCOPE OF PRACTICE 3 4 (b) Services performed by a dental therapist may only be performed in 5 practice settings or areas with a significant volume of low-income, uninsured, 6 or underserved patients, as shall be determined by the Department of Health, or 7 in areas designated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as 8 Health Professional Shortage Areas for dental care. In addition to services 9 permitted by the Board by rule, a dental therapist may perform the following 10 oral health care services: 11 * * * Sec. X. BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS; REQUIRED RULEMAKING 12 Prior to the effective date of Sec. 1 of this act, the Board of Dental 13 14 Examiners shall adopt the rules and perform all other acts necessary to implement the provisions of that section. 15 Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATES 16 17 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2015 July 1, 2017 except: 18 (1) Sec. X (Board of Dental Examiners; required rulemaking) shall take 19 effect on passage; and

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Comment [BAW14]: This provides the 7/1/20 sunset of the geographic practice limitation.

Any changes made to that limitation in Sec. 1 should be reflected here.

Comment [BAW15]: Rulemaking usually takes approximately eight months. In this bill, the Board would be required to adopt the following rules or otherwise perform these acts:

§ 611(a)(4) rules re: exam fee

§ 611(b)(1) re: approving exams

§ 611(b)(2)rules re: education and training necessary if exam failed twice

§ 612(2) rules re: license by endorsement

§ 613(b) rules (discretionary) re: DT services § 661(e) rules re: DT active practice requirements for renewal

Comment [BAW16]:

Overall eff. date okay, considering rulemaking? Also considering students obtaining the required CODA-accredited education.

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1	(2) for Sec. 4 (amending 26 V.S.A. § 613 (practice; scope of practice)),
2	which shall take effect on July 1, 2020.
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10	(Committee vote:)
11	
12	Representative
13	FOR THE COMMITTEE

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Comment [BAW17]: Sec. 4's sunset of § 613's geographic practice limitation okay as is?

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