

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to which was referred Senate
3 Bill No. 20 entitled “An act relating to establishing and regulating licensed
4 dental practitioners” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and
5 recommends that the bill be amended as follows:

6 First: In Sec. 1, in 26 V.S.A. § 561 (definitions), by striking out in its
7 entirety subdivision (8) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

8 (8) “General supervision” means:

9 (A) For a dental practitioner with a Master’s degree or higher:

10 (i) direct supervision whereby, at a minimum, the supervising
11 dentist is readily available at the dental practitioner’s place of practice by being
12 on-call to ensure patient safety; or

13 (ii) indirect supervision, which need not be on-site, except that
14 indirect supervision shall not include telemedicine. In this subdivision,
15 “telemedicine” shall have the same meaning as in 8 V.S.A. § 4100k.

16 (B) For a dental practitioner with less than a Master’s degree, direct
17 supervision whereby, at a minimum, the supervising dentist is readily available
18 at the dental practitioner’s place of practice by being on-call to ensure patient
19 safety.

1 Second: In Sec. 1, in 26 V.S.A. § 611 (license by examination), in
2 subdivision (a)(3), following “administered by an institution accredited” by
3 inserting “by the Commission on Dental Accreditation”

4 Third: In Sec. 1, following § 611 (license by examination), by inserting
5 § 611a to read:

6 § 611a. LICENSE BY ENDORSEMENT

7 The Board may grant a license as a dental practitioner to an applicant who:

8 (1) is currently licensed in good standing to practice as a dental
9 practitioner or dental therapist in any jurisdiction of the United States or
10 Canada that has licensing requirements deemed by the Board to be at least
11 substantially equivalent to those of this State;

12 (2) has met active practice requirements and any other requirements
13 established by the Board by rule; and

14 (3) pays the application fee set forth in section 662 of this chapter.

15 Fourth: By adding two new sections to be Secs. 2 and 3 to read:

16 Sec. 2. AFFILIATION WITH THE STATE OF MINNESOTA

17 (a) License by endorsement. For the purposes of 26 V.S.A. § 611a (license
18 by endorsement) in Sec. 1 of this act, a person licensed as a dental therapist in
19 the State of Minnesota who has been certified by the Minnesota Board of
20 Dentistry to practice as an advanced dental therapist shall be deemed to meet
21 the requirements of 26 V.S.A. § 611a(1).

1 (b) Vermont State Colleges and University of Vermont.

2 (1) The Board of Trustees of the Vermont State Colleges shall and the
3 Board of Trustees of the University of Vermont may explore the potential of
4 entering into an affiliation agreement with colleges in the State of Minnesota
5 that have an accredited dental therapy program so that the college credits of a
6 Vermont State College student or a University of Vermont student can transfer
7 into such a program in order for the student to attend the program.

8 (2) On or before January 1, 2017, those Boards of Trustees shall report
9 to the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Government
10 Operations and the House Committees on Health Care and on Government
11 Operations regarding the efforts of the Boards and any success in reaching an
12 affiliation agreement with the State of Minnesota.

13 Sec. 3. BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS; REPORT ON GEOGRAPHIC
14 DISTRIBUTION AND GENERAL SUPERVISION OF DENTAL
15 PRACTITIONERS

16 No earlier than two years after the effective date of this act but on or before
17 January 1, 2018, the Board of Dental Examiners shall report to the Senate
18 Committees on Health and Welfare and on Government Operations and the
19 House Committees on Health Care and on Government Operations regarding:

1 (1) Geographic distribution.

2 (A) The geographic distribution of licensed dental practitioners
3 practicing in this State.

4 (B) The geographic areas of this State that are underserved by
5 licensed dental practitioners.

6 (C) The Board’s recommended incentives to promote the practice of
7 licensed dental practitioners in underserved areas of this State, particularly
8 those areas that are rural in nature and have high numbers of people living in
9 poverty.

10 (2) General supervision. The Board’s analysis of the effectiveness of
11 the requirement that a dental practitioner be under the general supervision of a
12 dentist as described in 26 V.S.A. § 561, and any recommendations for
13 amendments to that general supervision requirement. In its report, the Board
14 shall address whether a dental practitioner should be able to practice under less
15 stringent supervision requirements and if so, under what conditions.

16 and by renumbering Sec. 2 (effective date) to be Sec. 4.