

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO



Current Law

Under current law, there are no continuing education requirements for dental hygienists.

2005 Senate Bill 95

Senate Bill 95, as amended by the Senate, requires an applicant for renewal of a dental hygienists license to attest that he or she has completed 20 credit hours of continuing education every two years, and that he or she has a current cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification. The continuing education must include training in basic life support, CPR and infection control. However, not more than two of the 20 hours may be satisfied by CPR or basic life support training, nor may less than two hours of the training be in infection control. The required hours may be satisfied by independent study, correspondence, or Internet courses or program. Also, an applicant for renewal may substitute uncompensated hours of voluntary activities related to dental hygiene for not more than eight of the required hours. The Dentistry Examining Board (DEB) may require applicants for renewal of a dental hygienist license to submit proof of compliance with the continuing education requirements.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 makes the following changes to the bill:

- It requires 12 hours, rather than 20 hours, of continuing education in the two years preceding renewal.
- Beginning January 1, 2007, the Department of Regulation and Licensing (DRL) must biennially consult with the DEB and the Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) regarding the number of credit hours of continuing education required for renewal. After

consultation, DRL may promulgate a rule setting the number of hours required for renewal between 12 and 20.

- After consulting with the DEB and DHFS, the DRL may promulgate rules requiring credit hours in specific clinical subjects.
- It deletes the provision in the bill that allows substitution of uncompensated voluntary activities for continuing education.
- The continuing education requirement does not apply the first time that a person applies to renew a license, but applies each time thereafter.

Legislative History

The Assembly Committee on Health took executive action on the bill on September 13, 2005. The committee recommended adoption of Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 by a vote of Ayes, 9; Noes, 0, and recommended concurrence in the bill, as amended, by a vote of Ayes, 9; Noes, 0.

LR:ksm:tlu