

## House File 805 - Enrolled

House File 805

### AN ACT

RELATING TO THE PRACTICE OF DENTAL ASSISTANTS WITHOUT  
REGISTRATION BY THE DENTAL BOARD.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. Section 147.74, subsection 5, Code 2025, is amended to read as follows:

5. A dentist may use the prefix "Dr." or "Doctor", but shall add after the person's name the letters "D.D.S.", or "D.M.D.", or the word "dentist" or "dental surgeon". A dental hygienist may use the words "registered dental hygienist" or the letters "R.D.H." after the person's name. A registered dental assistant may use the words "registered dental assistant" or the letters "R.D.A." after the person's name.

Sec. 2. Section 153.14, subsection 5, Code 2025, is amended to read as follows:

5. Persons ~~registered to practice~~ practicing as a dental assistant.

Sec. 3. Section 153.33, subsection 5, paragraph a, subparagraphs (1) and (2), Code 2025, are amended to read as follows:

(1) Engages in a practice regulated by this chapter without a current license, ~~registration~~, permit, or qualification.

(2) Employs a person without a current license, ~~registration~~, permit, or qualification to engage in a practice regulated by this chapter.

Sec. 4. Section 153.38, Code 2025, is amended to read as follows:

**153.38 Dental assistants — scope of practice.**

A ~~registered~~ dental assistant may perform those services of assistance to a licensed dentist as determined by the board by rule. A ~~registered~~ dental assistant with additional education and training, as provided by the board by rule, may ~~become certified to perform expanded functions or become qualified to~~ participate in dental radiography. A ~~registered~~ dental assistant who has successfully completed expanded function training through the university of Iowa college of dentistry or a program certified by the commission on dental accreditation may place dental sealants on teeth. Services performed by a ~~registered~~ dental assistant shall be performed under supervision of a licensed dentist, but this section shall not be construed to authorize a dental assistant to practice dentistry or dental hygiene. The board shall not adopt rules that delegate to a dental assistant the administration of local anesthesia or the removal of plaque, stain, calculus, or hard natural material except by toothbrush, floss, or rubber cup coronal polish. Every licensed dentist who utilizes the services of a ~~registered~~ dental assistant for the purpose of assistance in the practice of dentistry shall be responsible for acts delegated to the ~~registered~~ dental assistant. A dentist shall delegate to a ~~registered~~ dental assistant only those acts which are authorized to be delegated to ~~registered~~ dental assistants by the board. For the purposes of this section, "dental assistant" includes registered dental assistants and dental assistants without a certificate of registration.

Sec. 5. Section 153.39, subsection 1, Code 2025, is amended to read as follows:

1. A person shall not practice on or after July 1, 2001, as a registered dental assistant unless the person has registered with the board and received a certificate of registration pursuant to this chapter.

Sec. 6. Section 153.39, subsection 5, Code 2025, is amended by striking the subsection and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

5. A person may practice as a dental assistant without receiving a certificate of registration as described in this

section if the person successfully completes a term of practical training under the supervision of a dentist. The board shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A for the implementation of this subsection.

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PAT GRASSLEY  
Speaker of the House

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AMY SINCLAIR  
President of the Senate

I hereby certify that this bill originated in the House and is known as House File 805, Ninety-first General Assembly.

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MEGHAN NELSON  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved \_\_\_\_\_, 2025

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KIM REYNOLDS  
Governor