

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 28, 2004

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 14, 2004

SENATE BILL

No. 1865

Introduced by Senator Aanestad

February 20, 2004

An act to amend Sections 1631 and 1632 of, to amend and renumber, renumber, and add Section 1632.5 of, and to repeal Sections 1633 and 1633.5 of, the Business and Professions Code, relating to dentistry.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1865, as amended, Aanestad. Dentists: licensing: examinations.

The Dental Practice Act provides for the licensing and regulation of dentists and associated professions by the Dental Board of California. Existing law requires an applicant for a license to practice dentistry to pass a written examination on subjects prescribed by the board, and to also pass a clinical examination.

This bill would require an applicant for a license to practice dentistry to complete various examinations, including a nationally administered written examination, an examination in California law and ethics developed by the board, and a clinical and written examination administered either by the board or the Western Regional Examining Board. *The bill would require the Department of Consumer Affairs to review the examination offered by the Western Regional Examining Board. The bill would require a report by the Dental Board of California on examination passage rates.* The bill would make other related changes.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 1631 of the Business and Professions
2 Code is amended to read:
3 1631. The subjects in which the applicant shall be examined
4 shall be those subjects as the board may from time to time
5 prescribe. However, the subjects of examination shall be selected
6 in accordance with the trend of dental education in California as
7 that trend is determined, from time to time by the curricula of the
8 dental colleges in California approved by the Dental Board of
9 California, and no examination shall be given on any subject which
10 is not then, at the time of the determination, being currently taught
11 in those approved dental colleges. In the event of any changes in
12 the list of examination subjects, all approved dental schools in the
13 United States shall be notified, by the executive officer of the
14 board, at least two years in advance of the effective date of any
15 change or changes in subjects. Each applicant, at the time of filing
16 of application to take any examination hereunder, shall be given
17 a list of the subjects of the examination for which he or she is
18 making application.

19 SEC. 2. Section 1632 of the Business and Professions Code
20 is amended to read:
21 1632. (a) The board shall require each applicant to
22 successfully complete the written examinations of the National
23 Board of Dental Examinations of the Joint Commission on
24 National Dental Examinations.
25 (b) The board shall require each applicant to successfully
26 complete an examination in California law and ethics developed
27 and administered by the board.
28 (c) ~~The~~ *Except as otherwise provided in Section 1632.5, the*
29 board shall require each applicant to have taken and received a
30 passing score on one of the following:
31 (1) A clinical and written examination developed and
32 administered by the board.
33 (2) A clinical and written examination administered by the
34 Western Regional Examining Board, which board shall determine
35 the passing score for that examination.



1 SEC. 3. Section 1632.5 of the Business and Professions Code
2 is amended and renumbered to read:

3 1633. (a) When an applicant for a license has received a
4 grading of 85 percent or above in any given subject, he or she shall
5 be exempt from reexamination on that subject in subsequent
6 examinations before the board within two years after the
7 examination on which the applicant received the exemption.

8 (b) Notwithstanding Section 135, an applicant who fails to pass
9 the examination required by Section 1632 after three attempts
10 shall not be eligible for further reexamination until the applicant
11 has successfully completed a minimum of 50 hours of education
12 for each subject which the applicant failed in the applicant's last
13 unsuccessful examination. The coursework shall be taken at a
14 dental school approved by either the Commission on Dental
15 Accreditation or a comparable organization approved by the
16 board, and shall be completed within a period of one year from the
17 date of notification of the applicant's third failure.

18 (c) The coursework described in subdivision (b) shall be
19 required once for every three unsuccessful examination attempts.
20 When the applicant applies for reexamination, he or she shall
21 furnish proof satisfactory to the board that he or she has
22 successfully completed the requirements of this section.

23 SEC. 4. *Section 1632.5 is added to the Business and*
24 *Professions Code, to read:*

25 *1632.5. (a) Prior to implementation of paragraph (2) of*
26 *subdivision (c) of Section 1632, the department's Office of*
27 *Examination Resources shall review the Western Regional*
28 *Examining Board examination to assure compliance with the*
29 *requirements of Section 139 and to certify that the examination*
30 *process meets those standards. If the department determines that*
31 *the examination process fails to meet those standards, paragraph*
32 *(2) of subdivision (c) of Section 1632 shall not be implemented.*
33 *The review of the Western Regional Examining Board examination*
34 *shall be conducted during or after the Dental Board of California's*
35 *occupational analysis scheduled for 2004–05 fiscal year, but not*
36 *later than June 30, 2005. However, an applicant who successfully*
37 *completes the Western Regional Examining Board examination on*
38 *or after January 1, 2005, shall be deemed to have met the*
39 *requirements of subdivision (c) of Section 1632 if the department*



1 *certifies that the Western Regional Examining Board examination*
2 *meets the standards set forth in this subdivision.*

3 *(b) The Western Regional Examining Board examination*
4 *process shall be regularly reviewed by the department pursuant to*
5 *Section 139.*

6 *(c) The Western Regional Examining Board examination shall*
7 *meet the mandates of subdivision (a) of Section 12944 of the*
8 *Government Code.*

9 *(d) As part of its next scheduled review by the Joint Committee*
10 *on Boards, Commissions, and Consumer Protection, the Dental*
11 *Board of California shall report to that committee and the*
12 *department on the pass rates of applicants who sat for the Western*
13 *Regional Examining Board examination, compared with the pass*
14 *rates of applicants who sat for the state clinical and written*
15 *examination administered by the Dental Board of California. This*
16 *report shall be a component of the evaluation of the examination*
17 *process that is based on psychometrically sound principles for*
18 *establishing minimum qualifications and levels of competency.*

19 *SEC. 5. Section 1633 of the Business and Professions Code is*
20 *repealed.*

21 ~~*SEC. 5.*~~

22 *SEC. 6. Section 1633.5 of the Business and Professions Code*
23 *is repealed.*

