

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2331

Introduced by Assembly Member Dababneh

February 18, 2016

An act to amend Section 1632 of, and to add Section 1632.6 to, the Business and Professions Code, relating to dentistry and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2331, as introduced, Dababneh. Dentistry: applicants to practice.

The Dental Practice Act provides for the licensure and regulation of dentists and associated professions by the Dental Board of California within the Department of Consumer Affairs. The act requires each applicant for a license to practice dentistry to successfully complete specified examinations, including receiving a passing score on either a portfolio examination, as specified, or a clinical and written examination administered by the Western Regional Examining Board, which determines the passing score for that examination.

This bill would additionally allow an applicant to satisfy that examination requirement by receiving a passing score on an examination developed by the American Board of Dental Examiners, Inc.

Existing law authorizes the Director of Finance to accept on behalf of the state any gift of real or personal property whenever he or she deems the gift and the terms and conditions thereof to be in the best interest of the state. Existing law establishes the Special Deposit Fund, a continuously appropriated fund, which consists of money that is paid into it in trust pursuant to law when no other fund has been created to receive that money.

This bill would authorize the Director of Finance to accept funds for the purposes of implementing the dental examination developed by the American Board of Dental Examiners, Inc., described above. Because these funds would be deposited in the Special Deposit Fund, a continuously appropriated fund, this bill would make an appropriation.

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

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 1632 of the Business and Professions
2 Code is amended to read:

3 1632. (a) The board shall require each applicant to successfully
4 complete the Part I and Part II written examinations of the National
5 Board Dental Examination of the Joint Commission on National
6 Dental Examinations.

7 (b) The board shall require each applicant to successfully
8 complete an examination in California law and ethics developed
9 and administered by the board. The board shall provide a separate
10 application for this examination. The board shall ensure that the
11 law and ethics examination reflects current law and regulations,
12 and ensure that the examinations are randomized. Applicants shall
13 submit this application and required fee to the board in order to
14 take this examination. In addition to the aforementioned
15 application, the only other requirement for taking this examination
16 shall be certification from the dean of the qualifying dental school
17 attended by the applicant that the applicant has graduated, or will
18 graduate, or is expected to graduate. Applicants who submit
19 completed applications and certification from the dean at least 15
20 days prior to a scheduled examination shall be scheduled to take
21 the examination. Successful results of the examination shall, as
22 established by board regulation, remain valid for two years from
23 the date that the applicant is notified of having passed the
24 examination.

25 (c) Except as otherwise provided in Section 1632.5, the board
26 shall require each applicant to have taken and received a passing
27 score on one of the following:

28 (1) A portfolio examination of the applicant’s competence to
29 enter the practice of dentistry. This examination shall be conducted
30 while the applicant is enrolled in a dental school program at a

1 board-approved school located in California. This examination
2 shall utilize uniform standards of clinical experiences and
3 competencies, as approved by the board pursuant to Section 1632.1.
4 The applicant shall pass a final assessment of the submitted
5 portfolio at the end of his or her dental school program. Before
6 any portfolio assessment may be submitted to the board, the
7 applicant shall remit the required fee to the board to be deposited
8 into the State Dentistry Fund, and a letter of good standing signed
9 by the dean of his or her dental school or his or her delegate stating
10 that the applicant has graduated or will graduate with no pending
11 ethical issues.

12 (A) The portfolio examination shall not be conducted until the
13 board adopts regulations to carry out this paragraph. The board
14 shall post notice on its Internet Web site when these regulations
15 have been adopted.

16 (B) The board shall also provide written notice to the Legislature
17 and the Legislative Counsel when these regulations have been
18 adopted.

19 (2) A clinical and written examination administered by the
20 Western Regional Examining Board, *or an examination developed*
21 *by the American Board of Dental Examiners, Inc., or its successor*
22 *organization*, which board shall determine the passing score for
23 that examination.

24 (d) Notwithstanding subdivision (b) of Section 1628, the board
25 is authorized to do either of the following:

26 (1) Approve an application for examination from, and to
27 examine an applicant who is enrolled in, but has not yet graduated
28 from, a reputable dental school approved by the board.

29 (2) Accept the results of an examination described in paragraph
30 (2) of subdivision (c) submitted by an applicant who was enrolled
31 in, but had not graduated from, a reputable dental school approved
32 by the board at the time the examination was administered.

33 In either case, the board shall require the dean of that school or
34 his or her delegate to furnish satisfactory proof that the applicant
35 will graduate within one year of the date the examination was
36 administered or as provided in paragraph (1) of subdivision (c).

37 SEC. 2. Section 1632.6 is added to the Business and Professions
38 Code, to read:

39 1632.6. The Department of Finance may accept funds pursuant
40 to Sections 11005.1 and 16302 of the Government Code for the

1 purposes of implementing the examination developed by the
2 American Board of Dental Examiners, Inc., as described in
3 paragraph (2) of subdivision (c) of Section 1632.

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