

Senate Bill No. 1014

CHAPTER 752

An act to add Section 1684.5 to the Business and Professions Code, relating to dentistry.

[Approved by Governor October 7, 1997. Filed
with Secretary of State October 7, 1997.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1014, Brulte. Dentistry: dental auxiliaries.

Existing law provides for the licensure and regulation of the practice of dentistry, and provides that certain acts constitute unprofessional conduct.

This bill would, with certain exceptions, provide that it constitutes unprofessional conduct for a dentist to perform or allow to be performed any treatment on a patient who is not a patient of record, as defined.

This bill would authorize a dentist, after conducting a preliminary oral examination, to require or permit a dental auxiliary to perform procedures necessary for diagnostic purposes provided that the procedures are permitted under the auxiliary's scope of practice.

The bill would also authorize a dentist to require or permit a dental auxiliary to perform prescribed duties prior to any examination of the patient by the dentist if these duties are authorized for the particular classification of dental auxiliary.

This bill would provide that it would become operative only if AB 560 is enacted and becomes effective on or before January 1, 1998.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1684.5 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

1684.5. (a) In addition to other acts constituting unprofessional conduct under this chapter, it is unprofessional conduct for any dentist to perform or allow to be performed any treatment on a patient who is not a patient of record of that dentist. A dentist may, however, after conducting a preliminary oral examination, require or permit any dental auxiliary to perform procedures necessary for diagnostic purposes, provided that the procedures are permitted under the auxiliary's authorized scope of practice. Additionally, a dentist may require or permit a dental auxiliary to perform all of the following duties prior to any examination of the patient by the dentist, provided that the duties are authorized for the particular

classification of dental auxiliary pursuant to Article 7 (commencing with Section 1740):

- (1) Expose emergency radiographs upon direction of the dentist.
- (2) Perform extra-oral duties or functions specified by the dentist.
- (3) Perform mouth-mirror inspections of the oral cavity, to include charting of obvious lesions, malocclusions, existing restorations, and missing teeth.
 - (b) For purposes of this section, “patient of record” refers to a patient who has been examined, has had a medical and dental history completed and evaluated, and has had oral conditions diagnosed and a written plan developed by the licensed dentist.
 - (c) This section shall not apply to dentists providing examinations on a temporary basis outside of a dental office in settings including, but not limited to, health fairs and school screenings.
 - (d) This section shall not apply to fluoride mouth rinse or supplement programs administered in a school or preschool setting.

SEC. 2. This act shall become operative only if Assembly Bill 560 of the 1997–98 Regular Session of the Legislature is enacted and becomes effective on or before January 1, 1998.

