



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

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Legislative Document

No. 876

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S.P. 373

In Senate, February 24, 2023

**An Act to Expand Access to Oral Health Care in Rural Maine by  
Allowing Certain Out-of-state Dentists to Practice in Dental Clinics  
in the State**

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Reference to the Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §18302, sub-§5-A** is enacted to read:

3 **5-A. Dental clinic dentist license.** "Dental clinic dentist license" means a license that  
4 grants the authority to an individual to provide dental care at a dental clinic within the State  
5 when dental services from a resident dentist are not available.

6 **Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §18342, sub-§3-A** is enacted to read:

7 **3-A. Dental clinic dentist license.** An applicant for a dental clinic dentist license must  
8 comply with section 18341 and must provide:

9 A. Verification that the applicant has an active dentist license in good standing issued  
10 under the laws of another state, a Canadian province or a foreign country; and

11 B. Verification that the purpose of the license is to offer dental care at a dental clinic  
12 located in this State when dental services from a resident dentist are not available.

13 **Sec. 3. Board of Dental Practice to review options for dental clinic license**  
14 **for dental professionals other than dentists.** The Board of Dental Practice, as  
15 established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 12004-A, subsection 10, in  
16 conjunction with the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, shall review  
17 options for establishing a limited license to authorize dental professionals other than  
18 dentists credentialed under the laws of another state, a Canadian province or a foreign  
19 country to practice in the State for the purpose of providing services in dental clinics when  
20 services from resident licensed dental professionals are not available. The board shall report  
21 its findings and recommendations, including any suggested legislation, related to the  
22 establishment of a limited license for this purpose to the Joint Standing Committee on  
23 Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services no later than January 15, 2024. The  
24 Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services may  
25 report out a bill based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

26 **SUMMARY**

27 This bill provides for a limited license for a dentist credentialed under the laws of  
28 another state, a Canadian province or a foreign country to be licensed to practice in Maine  
29 for the purposes of providing services in dental clinics when dental services from licensed  
30 resident dentists are not available. The bill also directs the Board of Dental Practice, in  
31 conjunction with the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, to review  
32 options for a similar limited license for dental professionals other than dentists credentialed  
33 under the laws of another state, a Canadian province or a foreign country and to report their  
34 findings and recommendations to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.