

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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SENATE BILL 889  
Judiciary II Committee Substitute Adopted 5/10/93

Short Title: Cont. Ed. Dentists, Hygienists.

(Public)

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Sponsors:

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Referred to: Finance.

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April 19, 1993

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR MANDATORY CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR  
3 NORTH CAROLINA'S DENTISTS AND DENTAL HYGIENISTS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 Section 1. Article 2 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes is amended by  
6 adding a new section to read:

7 "**§ 90-31.1. Continuing education courses required.**

8 All dentists licensed under G.S. 90-30 shall be required to attend Board-approved  
9 courses of study in subjects relating to dentistry. The Board shall have authority to  
10 consider and approve courses, or providers of courses, to the end that those attending  
11 will gain (i) information on existing and new methods and procedures used by dentists,  
12 (ii) information leading to increased safety and competence in their dealings with  
13 patients and staff, and (iii) information on other matters, as they develop, that are of  
14 continuing importance to the practice of dentistry. The Board shall determine the  
15 number of hours of study within a particular period and the nature of course work  
16 required. The Board may provide exemptions or waivers from continuing education  
17 requirements where dentists are receiving alternate learning experiences or where they  
18 have limited practices. The Board shall by regulation define circumstances for  
19 exemptions or waivers for dentists who are involved in dental education or training  
20 pursuits where they gain experiences equivalent to formal continuing education courses,  
21 for those who have reached an advanced age and are semiretired or have otherwise  
22 voluntarily restricted their practices in volume and scope, and for such other situations  
23 as the Board in its discretion may determine meet the purposes of this section."

1           Sec. 2. G.S. 90-34 reads as rewritten:

2   **"§ 90-34. Refusal to grant renewal of license.**

3           For nonpayment of fee or fees required by this Article, for failure to comply with  
4 continuing education requirements adopted by the Board under the authority of G.S. 90-  
5 31.1, or for violation of any of the terms or provisions of ~~G.S. 90-41~~, G.S. 90-41  
6 concerning disciplinary actions, the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners  
7 may refuse to issue a certificate for renewal of license. As used ~~herein~~ in this section, the  
8 term 'license' ~~shall include~~ includes license, provisional license or intern permit."

9           Sec. 3. Article 16 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes is amended by  
10 adding the following new section to read:

11 **"§ 90-225.1. Continuing education courses required.**

12           All dental hygienists licensed under G.S. 90-225 shall be required to attend Board-  
13 approved courses of study in subjects relating to dental hygiene. The Board shall have  
14 authority to consider and approve courses, or providers of courses, to the end that those  
15 attending will gain (i) information on existing and new methods and procedures  
16 used by dental hygienists, (ii) information leading to increased safety and competence in  
17 their dealings with patients and supervising dentists, and (iii) information on other  
18 matters, as they develop, that are of continuing importance to the practice of dental  
19 hygiene as a part of the practice of dentistry. The Board shall determine the number of  
20 hours of study within a particular period and the nature of course work required. Failure  
21 to comply with continuing education requirements adopted under the authority of this  
22 section shall be grounds for the Board to decline to issue a renewal certificate under  
23 G.S. 90-227."

24           Sec. 4. This act becomes effective October 1, 1993, and applies to  
25 requirements imposed on or after that date.