

April 4, 2001

S 863. ORAL HEALTH CARE ACCESS. TO EXPAND ACCESS TO ORAL HEALTH CARE.

Appropriates \$7,500,000 for 2001-2002 and \$7,500,000 for 2002-2003 from General Fund to DHHS, Div'n of Medical Assistance, to make the reimbursement of dentists 100% of the eightieth percentile of charges as determined by the National Dental Advisory Service if the dentist can show (1) an increase in Medicaid-covered dental services over 1998-1999 and 1999-2000, (2) service to at least 20 Medicaid-covered patients during fiscal 2000-2001, (3) service to Medicaid-covered patients in adult care homes, hospital long-term care units, or certain state or local facilities, or (4) a system of care coordination for Medicaid-covered patients. Makes reimbursement 100% of the eighty-fifth percentile for services to Medicaid-covered patients from a mobile unit. This portion of act effective July 1, 2001.

Also amends GS 90-233, which now requires that a dental hygienist may practice only under the supervision of a licensed dentist and provides that this requirement is met if the hygienist is performing duties for a local health department or state dental health program and is specially trained by the Dental Health Section of the DHHS, to (1) reorganize the statutory provision, (2) to specify that work in a nonprofit community health center or school-based health center qualifies, and (3) to specify that these provisions do not expand the scope of practice of dental hygienists or alter the supervision requirements otherwise applicable.

Intro. by Martin of Guilford.

Ref. to Appropriations	GS 90, APPROP
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