

Legislative Analysis



DENTAL SPECIALTIES

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House Bill 5446 (H-3) as reported from committee

Sponsor: Rep. Ben Frederick

1st Committee: Health Policy

2nd Committee: Ways and Means

Revised 12-6-20

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

House Bill 5446 would amend two sections of Part 166 (Dentistry) of the Public Health Code to account for specialized dental professions.

Section 16608 allows the Michigan Board of Dentistry¹ to issue specialty field licenses to dentists with advanced training. In addition to current specialty fields, the bill would add the following:

- Oral medicine.
- Orofacial pain.
- Dental public health.
- Oral and maxillofacial radiology.
- Dental anesthesiology.

Section 16605 prohibits unauthorized people from using the words “dentist,” “dental hygienist,” or other such terms, except as prescribed in the code. The bill would add “oral and maxillofacial radiologist,” “dental anesthesiologist,” “oral medicine doctor,” “public health dentist,” and “orofacial pain specialist” to this list of protected terms.

The bill would take effect 180 days after its date of enactment.

MCL 333.16605 and 333.16608

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 5446 would not be expected to have an appreciable fiscal impact on any unit of state or local government.

¹ https://www.michigan.gov/whitmer/0,9309,7-387-90501_90626-250270--,00.html

POSITIONS:

A representative of the Michigan Dental Association testified in support of the bill. (9-8-20)

The following entities indicated support for the bill:

Michigan Council of Dental Specialties (9-8-20)

Economic Alliance for Michigan (9-8-20)

Michigan Oral Health Coalition (12-1-20)

The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) indicated a neutral position on the bill. (9-8-20)

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■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.