



**HB 5511 (Rep. David Miller) / SB 2330 (Sen. John Jones)
IFT / IDHA Position: OPPOSE**

Synopsis:

House Bill 5511 and Senate Bill 2330 provide for three changes to the Dental Practice Act:

- 1) **Increased duties for the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.**
 - A) **Requires that the Department recommend to the General Assembly the circumstances under which a dental hygienist is prohibited from using emerging scientific techniques or technology.**
 - B) **Or, if the use of the technology is not prohibited, requires the Department to specify the training, experience, and supervision required in order for a hygienist to use emerging scientific techniques or technology.**
- 2) **Prohibits dental hygienist members of the Illinois Board of Dentistry from participating in rulemaking or disciplinary cases that involve the clinical standards or clinical judgments by dentists.**
- 3) **Prohibits inscription of an individual's social security number on a dental device.**

IFT / IDHA Position: OPPOSE Provisions 1 & 2

Rationale: These provisions are targeted toward dental hygienists and do not enhance clinical practice or patient care. IDHA fails to see any advance in the practice of dentistry as a result of this legislation.

Provision 1:

- **The IFT and IDHA oppose the first provision of this legislation because it is overly broad and targeted solely at hygienists. As drafted, it is unclear what is meant by "emerging scientific techniques or technology." Does this include techniques and devices such as new power toothbrushes or new oral rinses?**
- **Also, the legislation is written only to regulate the use of new technology by hygienists. If public safety dictates rulemaking before a hygienist may use new technology, wouldn't the same be true for the use of new technology by a dentist? Or, alternatively, wouldn't there be a public benefit for the Department to regulate when a dentist must cease the use of older, less effective methods after new, clinically advanced (yet sometimes more costly) methods become available?**

Provision 2:

- **The IFT and IDHA oppose the second provision of this legislation because it is unnecessary to draw distinctions between the type of practitioners that serve on the Illinois Board of Dentistry.**
- **Currently, the full Board participates in the rulemaking and disciplinary proceedings – 8 dentists, 2 hygienists, and one public member. This legislation is again targeted solely at hygienists and would prohibit their participation in Board activities while continuing to allow the public member to participate, who has no clinical education or experience.**
- **If the argument is that hygienists members are not qualified to participate in rulemaking and disciplinary proceedings, wouldn't the same hold true for the qualifications of the board members who practice general dentistry but participate in the rulemaking and disciplinary proceedings of dental specialists who receive additional post-graduate training such as an orthodontist, periodontist, or an oral and maxillofacial surgeon?**

The IFT and IDHA ask that you oppose HB 5511 and SB 2330.

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