

MEMORANDUM

To: Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

From: Office of Revisor of Statutes

Date: January 30, 2025

Subject: Bill Brief on SB 31

Senate Bill 31 updates certain provisions of the Kansas dental practices act relating to dentist information requested by patients, in-person practice requirements in dental office using licensee's name, unprofessional conduct and patient complaints.

Section 1 amends K.S.A. 65-1430 to require a treating dentist to provide a requesting patient with information about the dentist, the dental practice and emergency contact information. Failure to provide a patient who requests such information would subject the dentist to disciplinary action by the Kansas dental board.

Section 2 amends K.S.A. 65-1435 to strike language related to what's known as the 20% requirement. This stricken language in subsection (d) prohibits a dentist from being professionally associated with a dental clinic unless such dentist is personally present at least 20% of the time when patients are being treated in the office. A dentist's violation of this prohibition subjects such dentist to having their license suspended or revoked.

Subsection (f) provides an exception to the rule in subsection (d) that allows a dentist to own two additional dental offices if such offices are within 125 miles of the dentist's primary office and located in a county with a population of less than 10,000. This subsection is stricken.

Section 3 amends K.S.A. 65-1436, by adding to the list of offenses that subject a dentist to professional discipline in (a)(21) if a dentist has directed or pressured another dentist, employee or associate to perform dental care that fails to adhere to the applicable standard of dental care or otherwise violates the dental practice act.

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Section 4 amends K.S.A. 65-1476 by adding language in subsection (b) that would prohibit a dentist or contract for dental services from requiring a patient to sign an agreement limiting the patient's ability to file a complaint with the dental board.