



Adopt the Dentist and Dental Hygienist

Compact: Help Address Current Workforce Shortage, Improve Access to Care, and Continue to Protect the Public

**> Support SB 22 (Senator Mamie Locke) and
HB 225 (Delegate Mark Sickles)**

Specific Bill Language:

“Authorizes Virginia to become a signatory to the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact. The Compact increases public access to dental services by permitting eligible licensed dentists and dental hygienists to practice in Compact participating states, provided that they are licensed in at least one participating state. The Compact has been passed in three states and takes effect when it is enacted by a seventh participating state or upon the effective date of the bill, whichever is later.”

How this Legislation will Benefit Dentists, Dental Hygienists and Virginians in Need of Dental Care:

- Dentists and dental hygienists can move across state lines while eliminating the needless waiting periods and hurdles that many experience on a regular basis.
- It's a big step forward to improve licensee mobility and office recruitment as well as facilitate improved access to needed oral health care.
- It helps to address one of the major relocating challenges for dentists and dental hygienists in our military and public health services, and their families.
- The Virginia Board of Dentistry and other states' regulatory boards will benefit by providing agreement on uniform licensure requirements, and enhance public safety through a shared data system.

Bottom Line: SB 22 and HB 225 would help reduce administrative burdens, promote needed workforce, and protect patients.

The VDA asks for your support and to co-patron SB 22 and HB 225.

This legislation is supported by the VDA, the Virginia Dental Hygienists' Associations, the American Dental Association, and the American Dental Hygiene Association.