

*As Engrossed: 3/5/93*

1 **State of Arkansas**  
2 **79th General Assembly**  
3 **Regular Session, 1993**  
4 **By: Representative Hendrix**

# A Bill

**ACT 883 OF 1993**  
**HOUSE BILL 1766**

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO PERMIT DENTAL HYGIENISTS TO WORK UNDER GENERAL  
9 DIRECTION AND SUPERVISION OF A LICENSED DENTIST IN  
10 RESTRICTED SETTINGS ONLY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

## Subtitle

13 "RELATING TO THE WORK OF DENTAL HYGIENISTS IN RESTRICTED  
14 SETTINGS."

16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

18 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 17-82-104(b) is amended to read as follows:

19 "(b) (1) It is unlawful for any corporation to practice dentistry or  
20 dental hygiene or to hold itself out as entitled to engage therein.

21 (2) A registered licensed dental hygienist *working at an Arkansas*  
22 *Department of Correction facility* may work under the general supervision of a  
23 licensed dentist. General supervision as used in this section means that:

24 (A) The dentist shall establish a written office protocol which  
25 specifically indicates when a hygienist may treat a patient and when a patient  
26 is to be seen by a dentist;

27 (B) The hygienist shall specifically adhere to the protocol for  
28 treatment developed by the dentist;

29 (C) General supervision is limited to prophylaxis, application of  
30 sealants, root planning and any duties normally assigned to dental assistants;

31 (D) The dentist is to review and countersign all entries made in  
32 the patient\_s chart by the hygienists within seven (7) working days;

33 (E) All hygienists working in a general supervision capacity  
34 shall be currently certified in CPR;

35 (F) The hygienist shall review dental health history prior to  
36 treatment."

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SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. EMERGENCY. It is hereby found and determined by the General Assembly that there is urgent need to authorize dental hygienists to work under general supervision of a licensed dentist in certain settings; that this act is designed to permit such practice under strict guidelines and should be given effect immediately. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

*/s/B.G. Hendrix*

APPROVED: 4/5/93

