WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1992

ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO. 524

(By Senator Spears)

PASSED March 2, 1992
In Effect 90 days from Passage
AN ACT to amend and reenact section seventeen-b, article four, chapter thirty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended; to further amend said article by adding thereto a new section, designated section seventeen-c, relating to increasing the license renewal fees of dentists and dental hygienists; making continuing education requirements a prerequisite to license renewal; authorizing the board to establish continuing education requirements and criteria for course providers; and establishing the effective dates for compliance.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section seventeen-b, article four, chapter thirty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted; and that said article be further amended by adding thereto a new section, designated section seventeen-c, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 4. DENTISTS, DENTAL HYGIENISTS AND DENTAL CORPORATIONS.

§30-4-17b. Annual information and renewal fee; notice; reinstatement; penalty fees; waiver of payment of fee on retirement or disability; change of address.

1 On or before the first day of February of each year,
every dentist licensed to practice dentistry in this state, and every dental hygienist licensed to practice dental hygiene in this state, shall transmit to the secretary of the board upon a form prescribed by the board, his signature, post-office address, office address, the serial number of his license certificate, whether he has been engaged during the preceding year in the active and continuous practice of dentistry or dental hygiene, as the case may be, whether within or without this state, and such other information as may be required by the board, together with an information and renewal fee herein provided for.

The annual information and renewal fee for a dentist shall be seventy-five dollars and for a dental hygienist shall be fifty dollars.

Upon receipt of the required information and the payment of the proper renewal fee, the licensee shall be issued a renewal certificate authorizing him to continue the practice of dentistry or the practice of dental hygiene in this state for a period of one year from the first day of February.

A license to practice dentistry or dental hygiene granted under the authority of this article shall be canceled on the first day of May if the holder thereof fails to secure a current renewal certificate by that day. Any licensee whose license is thus canceled by reason of the failure, neglect or refusal to secure the proper renewal certificate may be reinstated by the board at any time within six months from the date of the cancellation of said license upon the payment of the proper renewal fee and an additional fee of twenty-five dollars. If the licensee shall not apply for renewal of his license as herein required within the said six months, that person shall, at the discretion of said board, be required to file an application for and take the examination provided in this article should he desire to practice dentistry or dental hygiene in this state.

Upon failure of any licensee to submit the required information and pay the annual renewal fee as herein
required by the statutory date, the board shall attempt
to notify such licensee in writing by mailing to his last
registered address a notice of the requirements of this
section apprising him of the fact that his license to
practice will be canceled on the statutory date: Pro-
vided, That failure to mail or receive such notice shall
not affect the cancellation of his license.

The board may waive the annual payment of the
renewal fee herein required, and issue a renewal
certificate to any West Virginia licensee for at least
twenty-five years and who is presently retired from
active practice, or to any West Virginia licensee who
has retired for reasons of physical disability, so long as
such retirement continues: Provided, That the licensee
provides the board with the information required by
this section.

Every licensed dentist within thirty days of changing
his place of practice or establishing additional offices
shall furnish the secretary of the board with his new
professional address.

Every licensed dental hygienist within thirty days of
changing his place of employment shall furnish the
secretary of the board with his new professional
address and the name of his employer.

§30-4-17c. Continuing education requirements as a prereq-
quisite to license renewal; board's authority;
compliance deadlines.

(a) The board of dental examiners is authorized to
establish continuing education requirements as a
prerequisite to renewal of licenses for dentists and
dental hygienists. The board shall develop criteria for
course content and publish the same for course
providers.

Only those courses approved by the board will be
accepted for purposes of fulfilling the continuing
education requirements.

The board will determine the number of continuing
education hours necessary for relicensure: Provided,
That the requirement does not exceed twenty hours
for any two year period.

(b) Beginning on the first day of February, one thousand nine hundred ninety-six, and every two years thereafter, each dentist and dental hygienist licensed to practice in this state shall return to the secretary of the board evidence satisfactory to that board that such dentist or dental hygienist has completed the required number of course hours for the previous two year period.

Dentists or dental hygienists receiving their original license to practice after the first day of February, one thousand nine hundred ninety-four shall comply with the provisions of this section beginning on the first day of February, one thousand nine hundred ninety-eight.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Homer Leck
Chairman Senate Committee

Dennis Moore
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

In effect ninety days from passage.

David E. Thomas
Clerk of the Senate

Donald L. Kopp
Clerk of the House of Delegates

Tanya S. Eubanks
President of the Senate

J. Scheurer
Speaker House of Delegates

The within is approved this the 11th day of , 1992.

Yasoron Caperton
Governor