

House Bill 223 (AM)

By: Representatives Childers of the 13<sup>th</sup>, Henson of the 65<sup>th</sup>, Jackson of the 148<sup>th</sup>, Parsons of the 40<sup>th</sup>, West of the 101<sup>st</sup> and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 43-11-74 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 direct supervision of dental hygienists, so as to authorize them to perform dental screenings  
3 without such supervision under certain conditions; to provide for information and fees; to  
4 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 43-11-74 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to direct  
8 supervision of dental hygienists, is amended by adding at the end a new subsection to read  
9 as follows:

10 "(e)(1) As used in this subsection, the term 'dental screening' means a visual assessment  
11 of the oral cavity without the use of X-rays, laboratory tests, or diagnostic models to  
12 determine if it appears that a more thorough examination and diagnosis should be  
13 conducted by a dentist.

14 (2) The requirement of direct supervision shall not apply to the performance of dental  
15 hygienists providing dental screenings in settings which include schools, hospitals,  
16 clinics, state, county, local and federal public health programs. Other health fair settings  
17 must be pre-approved by the board.

18 (3) Each person who receives a dental screening pursuant to this subsection, or the parent  
19 or legal guardian if the person is a minor, must be informed in writing of the purpose and  
20 limitations of a dental screening and advised to seek a more thorough examination by a  
21 dentist to determine whether or not problems exist that might not be discovered in a  
22 screening. There shall be no fees charged for providing a dental screening pursuant to  
23 this subsection except for dental screenings provided by employees of the Department  
24 of Human Resources or county boards of health. These fees must be paid directly to that  
25 department or county board of health and not to the individual who performs the dental  
26 screening."

