

House Bill 521

By: Representatives Gaines of the 117th, Cooper of the 43rd, Pruett of the 149th, Greene of the 151st, and Frye of the 118th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 2 of Chapter 11 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to licenses for the practice of dentistry, so as to authorize temporary licenses for
3 dentists licensed in other states to provide dental care to indigent populations in this state;
4 to provide for notice; to provide for length of validity of temporary licenses; to provide for
5 application; to provide for specified dental care; to provide for rules and regulations; to
6 provide for immunity from civil liability; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting
7 laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

10 Article 2 of Chapter 11 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
11 licenses for the practice of dentistry, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as
12 follows:

13 "43-11-42.1.

14 (a) The board may issue, in its discretion, a temporary license to a dentist who holds a
15 currently valid license from another state, district, possession, or territory of the United
16 States for the sole purpose of providing dental care to indigent populations in this state that
17 may not otherwise be able to obtain such services, without expectation of compensation
18 from or charge to the individual receiving dental care and without payment or
19 reimbursement by any governmental agency or insurer. Such dental care may be provided
20 at the private office of a licensed dentist or a clinic that is hosting a charitable dental event
21 for which notice has been given to the board pursuant to subsection (b) of this Code
22 section. A temporary license issued under this subsection shall be valid for no more than
23 a ten-day period during such charitable dental event.

24 (b) At least 30 days prior to a charitable dental event at which such dental care is to be
25 provided, the private office of a licensed dentist or a clinic that is hosting the charitable
26 dental event shall notify the board of such event in writing or via email.

27 (c) To obtain a temporary license pursuant to this Code section, a dentist shall:

28 (1) Apply online or in writing to the board at least 30 days prior to the proposed dental
29 care to be provided; and

30 (2) Submit himself or herself for a National Practitioner Data Bank query to be
31 conducted by the board.

32 (d) A dentist holding a temporary license issued pursuant to this Code section may perform
33 preventive, restorative, periodontic, endodontic, behavior management, and oral surgery
34 procedures in accordance with a treatment plan.

35 (e) A dentist providing dental care under a temporary license issued pursuant to this Code
36 section shall be eligible for the provision of dental malpractice insurance.

37 (f) The board may waive the requirements of subsections (a) through (c) of this Code
38 section for a dentist who volunteers to provide dental services through a charitable
39 nonprofit organization solely utilizing volunteers.

40 (g) The board shall promulgate rules and regulations that are reasonably necessary to
41 implement the provisions of this Code section.

42 (h) Any person or organization that conducts a charitable dental event shall be granted
43 immunity from civil liability in accordance with Code Section 51-1-29.1."

44 **SECTION 2.**

45 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.