

HB 968 Health Occupations Dental Assistants Certification and Regulation

Dr Thomas R. a'Becket

FAVORABLE with Technical Amendments

This bill creates an expanded Function Dental Assistant in 4 additional duties which can be performed under the DIRECT SUPERVISION of the treating dentist. This will elevate their training allowing a more efficient and productive delivery of oral health care in both public and private settings.

The new duties would be as follows:

- 1- Placement of dental sealants (plastic coating on tooth surfaces)**
- 2- Coronal polishing solely for stain and biofilm removal (not Prophylaxis)**
- 3- Monitoring Nitrous Oxide (laughing gas)**
- 4- Application of Silver Diamine Fluoride (decay arresting regime)**

The Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners are charged under this bill to approve the educational requirements and appropriate certification utilizing the Dental Assisting National Board (DNAB) and other rules, regulations and fees. I believe 41 other states allow some or all of the above duties.

For these reasons I request a FAVORABLE REPORT for HB 968

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