

State of Arkansas
91st General Assembly
Regular Session, 2017

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1255

By: Representatives D. Ferguson, M. Gray

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO CREATE A TEMPORARY CHARITABLE DENTAL
LICENSE; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO CREATE A TEMPORARY CHARITABLE DENTAL
LICENSE; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 17, Chapter 82, Subchapter 3, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

17-82-318. Temporary charitable dental license.

(a) The Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners may license a dentist who practices for no more than four (4) consecutive days per calendar year in the State of Arkansas without compensation if the dentist has applied for and received a temporary license from the board.

(b) An applicant for a temporary charitable dental license shall submit an application and any application fees required by the board and:

(1) The dates and location where the applicant desires to practice within Arkansas;

(2) The name of the supervising dentist who is licensed in Arkansas;

(3) A copy of the applicant's dental license from another jurisdiction;

(4)(A) A letter from the respective dental licensing entity in the home state of the applicant indicating that the applicant is in good



standing.

(B) As used in this section, "good standing" means the individual has an active license without a compliant, investigation, or action against him or her;

(5) A copy of the malpractice policy of the applicant; and

(6) Other pertinent information as determined by the board.

(c)(1) An applicant for a temporary charitable dental license issued by the board shall provide written authorization to the board to allow the Department of Arkansas State Police to release the results of state and federal criminal history background check reports to the board as required under § 17-82-801 et seq.

(2) An applicant shall pay the fees associated with the background checks.

(d) A dentist shall not practice in Arkansas under this section until the board issues a temporary charitable dental license.

(e) The board may renew a temporary charitable dental license in subsequent years if the dentist submits a renewal form, a renewal fee determined by the board, and any other information as determined by the board.

(f) This section does not apply to a dentist who is issued a permanent license by the board under § 17-82-304.

SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that many citizens of Arkansas are without much needed dental care due to lack of financial resources, transportation, or local access to dental care providers; that lack of regular dental care can lead to serious health conditions and diseases; that authorizing dentists who are not licensed in the State of Arkansas to provide time-limited charitable dental services will greatly benefit the citizens of Arkansas in need of dental care; and that this act is immediately necessary to improve the health of the citizens of Arkansas. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

(1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

(2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,

the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or

(3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.