



Update Current Remote Supervision Legislation:

Help Provide More Access for Underserved Populations

> **Support HB 605 (Delegate Cia Price)**

Background:

Under current law, passed in 2012 and expanded in 2016, the program allows dental hygienists employed by the Virginia Department of Health, as well as some employed by private practices, to provide educational and preventative services, particularly in rural and underserved areas. They see patients in community health centers, free clinics, long term care facilities, schools, head start programs and women, infants, and children (WIC) programs.

Challenges with Current Legislation:

Providers concerned with requirement for a dentist to see the patient within 90 days did not give dentists enough time to successfully integrate new patients into busy practices. Some providers are also concerned about liability coverage related to the 90-day language since it indicates a separate cadence from the standard 180-day model.

Solution:

This legislation would simply increase the number of days for which a dental hygienist practicing under remote supervision may treat a patient prior to a dentist conducting an examination from 90 days to 180 days.

The VDA asks for your support and to co-patron HB 605.

This legislation is supported by the VDA, the Virginia Dental Hygienists' Association and the Virginia Health Catalyst.



To learn more about this legislation in Virginia, please contact **Laura Givens** at givens@vadental.org or 804-523-2185.