

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

18th Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 5479



Introduced by: Hon. Raneo E. Abu

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In June 2, 2007, RA 9484 also known as The Philippine Dental Act of 2007 was approved to provide for the regulation of the practice of dentistry. It has supported our dentists through their professional development and fostered a competent and globally-competitive industry. Despite the improvement in the state of dental health profession in the country, it is our duty to ensure that our existing laws allow for the best delivery of dental care services in the country.

Thus, the proposed bill seeks to amend RA 9484 for the purpose of improving support to the dental health profession in the country. Highlights of the proposed measure includes the following among others:

1. To include "dental laboratory technician" as distinguished from "dental technician";
2. To define and identify the scope of work of a "dentist", "dental technician", and "dental laboratory technician";
3. To rectify the powers and functions of the Board of Dentistry; and provide additional qualification of a Chairman and Member of the Board of Dentistry;
4. To add requirements for "dental technician" licensure examination application and improve qualification for admission to the Professional Regulation Commission;
5. To standardize display of dental clinic name or dental laboratory name; and
6. To increase the Penalty for violation of the law.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

RANEO E. ABU

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HOUSE BILL No. 5479

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**AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9484, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS “AN
ACT TO REGULATE THE PRACTICE OF DENTISTRY, DENTAL HYGIENE AND
DENTAL TECHNOLOGY IN THE PHILIPPINES,”**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in
Congress assembled:

ARTICLE I

TITLE, STATEMENT OF POLICY, OBJECTIVES, AND SCOPE OF PRACTICE

Section 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the ***“The Philippine Dental Act of 2019”***.

Section 2. *Statement of Policy.* – The State recognizes the importance of dentists, dental hygienists, dental technologists, and dental auxiliaries (dental laboratory technicians and dental clinic assistant) in nation-building. Hence, it shall develop and nurture competent, productive, morally-upright, and well rounded dentists, dental hygienists, dental technologists and dental laboratory technician whose standards of professional practice and service shall be excellent, qualitative, world-class and internationally recognized, globally competitive through regulatory measures, programs and activities that foster their continuing professional development.

Section 3. *Objectives.* – This Act provides for:

- (a) The regulation, control, and supervision of the practice of dentistry, dental hygiene, dental technology and dental auxiliaries (dental laboratory technical and dental clinic assistant) in the Philippines;
- (b) The giving of licensure examination to graduates of recognized dental schools of dentistry, dental hygiene, dental technology, and national certification from TESDA to the dental auxiliary (dental laboratory technician and dental clinic assistant) for the purpose of registration;
- (c) The accreditation of the various specialties of dentistry;
- (d) The promotion and development of continuing dental education and research in the country;
- (e) The enforcement of the Code of Ethics and Code of Dental Practice in the Philippines for all the dental professionals; and
- (f) The stipulation of penalties for infractions or violations of this Act or any other laws, rules and regulations authorized under the provisions of this Act.

Section 4. *Definition and Scope of Practice.* –

- (a) Dentist – refers to a person who is a holder of a valid certificate of registration and professional identification card in Dentistry who renders dental service within the meaning and intent of this Law and who, for a fee, salary, compensation or reward, paid to him/her or through another, or even without such compensation or reward, performs any operation or part of an operation, upon the human oral cavity, jaws, teeth and surrounding tissues; prescribes drugs or medicines for the treatment of oral diseases or lesions, or prevents, corrects malpositions of the teeth or implantation of artificial substitutes for lost teeth and/or engaged in the mechanical construction of prosthodontic and orthodontic appliances for his/her own client or patient; and teaches subjects in the licensure examination; or engages

in dental research: Provided, however, That this provision shall not apply to licensed registered dental technologists and certified dental laboratory technicians engaged in the mechanical construction of artificial dentures or fixtures or other oral devices, as long as none of such procedures is done inside the mouth of the patient; nor shall this provision apply to students of dentistry undergoing practical training in a legally constituted dental school or college under the direction or supervision of a member of the faculty who is duly licensed to practice dentistry in the Philippines;

- (b) Dental Hygienist – refers to a person who is a holder of a valid certificate of registration and professional identification card and has undergone a two year course in dental hygiene from a government recognized school under a college of dentistry and passing the prescribed board examination for dental hygienist, renders oral health promotion and preventive measures, performs scaling and polishing, oral examination, taking brief clinical history, taking radiograph, and giving oral health education to patients under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist in a registered dental clinic, private or public school clinic or barangay, municipal, regional or provincial health station or facility;
- (c) Dental Technologist - refers to a person who is a holder of a valid certificate of registration and professional identification card and who renders technical services such as mechanical construction of artificial denture and other oral devices, and has finished a two year certificate course in dental technology from any government recognized school with NCIV TESDA accreditation and six months on the job training (OJT) on a DOH licensed Dental Laboratory.
- (d) Dental Laboratory Technician – refers to a person who is a holder of any valid National Certificate(s) from TESDA (NC I, NC II- Qualifications of Removable Denture/Appliance and Fixed Dentures and Restoration) and ID shall only provide technical services based on

their competency standards for certain qualifications as set on the TESDA training regulation that describes the different functions of the qualification with the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) Board of Dentistry. Furthermore, TESDA registered dental technician can provide the said technical services if they are under the supervision of a licensed dental technologist approved and signed by the directing and supervising licensed dentist in a licensed dental laboratory.

ARTICLE II

THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Section 5. *Composition of the Board.* – There is hereby created a Professional Regulatory Board of Dentistry, hereinafter referred to as the Board, under the administrative control and supervision of the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC), hereinafter referred to as the Commission, composed of a chairman and four members who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines from the recommendees chosen and ranked by the Commission from a certified official list of nominees submitted/endorsed by the accredited and integrated professional organization.

Section 6. *Powers and Functions of the Board.* – The Board shall have the following powers and functions:

- (a) Promulgate, administer and enforce rules and regulations necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Act;
- (b) Administer oaths in connection with the administration of this Act;
- (c) Study the conditions affecting the practice of dentistry, dental hygiene and dental technology, and dental laboratory technician in the Philippines;

- (d) Adopt or recommend such measures or discharge such duties, as may be deemed proper for the advancement of the profession and the vigorous enforcement of this Act;
- (e) Ensure, in coordination with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), the Accredited Professional Organization, and the Association of Dental Colleges, that all educational institutions offering dentistry, dental hygiene, dental technology and dental auxiliary (dental laboratory technician and dental clinic assistant) comply with the policies, standards and requirements of the course prescribed by the CHED or TESDA in the areas of curriculum, faculty, library, and facilities;
- (f) Supervise and regulate the registration, licensure and practice of dentistry, dental hygiene, dental technology and dental auxiliary (dental laboratory technician and dental clinic assistant) dental laboratory technician in the Philippines;
- (g) Adopt an official seal of the Board;
- (h) Issue, reinstate, suspend or revoke the certificate of registration and professional identification card or cancel special permits for the practice of dentistry, dental hygiene, dental technology, dental auxiliary (dental laboratory technician and dental clinic assistant)
- (i) Prescribe and/or adopt a Code of Ethics and a Code of Dental Practice for the practice of dentistry, dental hygiene, dental technology and dental laboratory technician;
- (j) Prescribe guidelines and criteria in the Continuing Professional Education (CPE) program for dentistry, dental hygiene, dental technology and dental laboratory technician;

- (k) Help regulate the dental products and facilities used in the practice of dentistry with the Department of Health in collaboration with the accredited professional organization and/or its affiliate chapters.

(IRR) The professional regulatory board of dentistry

- (l) Hear or investigate any violation of this Act, its implementing rules and regulation, and the Code of Ethics for dentists as shall come to the knowledge of the Board and for this purpose, issue a subpoena duces tecum to secure the appearance of witnesses and the production of documents in connection therewith;
- (m) Accredite various dental specialties, dental societies, professional organizations; and interrelated government agencies;
- (n) Perform such other powers and functions as it may deem necessary to carry out the objectives of the Act

Section 7. *Qualification of the Chairman and Members of the Board.* – The chairman and members of the Board shall, at the time of his/her appointment, possess the following qualification:

- (a) Be a natural-born citizen of the Philippines and a resident thereof;
- (b) Be a duly registered dentist in the Philippines with a valid certificate of registration and professional identification card;
- (c) Be a member of good standing of the accredited professional organization for the last ten years: Provided, That a member of the Board may not qualify in any position, whether elective or appointive or serve as an officer of the accredited professional organization of dentists or its affiliate chapters during his/her incumbency as such;

- (d) Have at least ten (10) years of continuous clinical experience as a dentist and preferably with three (3) years of teaching experience on any dental discipline;
- (e) Not be a member of the faculty of any school, college, university or TESDA school where undergraduate and graduate courses in dentistry are taught and where dental hygiene and dental technology courses and review courses are offered, nor shall have, directly or indirectly, any pecuniary interest in such institution; and
- (f) Not be connected in any capacity with any business enterprise, firm or company in the buying, selling or manufacture of dental goods, equipment, materials or supplies.

Section 8. *Term of Office.* – The chairman and members of the Board shall serve for a term of three to five years from the date of their appointment. And may be reappointed otherwise when the less than one half of the term is served. The member serving the last year of his term shall automatically become the chairman of the Board and shall not be able to succeed himself/herself immediately after the expiration of his/her term of office so that the term of one member shall be due to expire every year: Provided further, That an appointment for any existing vacancy or vacancies shall be made within one month from the time the vacancy occurred and shall be for the unexpired portion of the term only. In case of any vacancy proper notification coming from the PRC shall be given to the accredited professional organization.

Section 9. *Compensation and Allowances of the Board.* – The chairman and members of the Board receive compensation and allowances comparable to that being received by the chairman and members of existing regulatory boards under the Commission as provided for in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 10. *Suspension and Removal from Office.* – Any member of the Board may, upon the recommendation of the Commission after due process of law and investigation conducted by the Commission, be suspended or removed by the President from office for cause such as neglect of duty, abuse of power, oppression,

incompetence, unprofessional, unethical, immoral or dishonorable conduct, commission or toleration of irregularities in the conduct of examination or tampering of the grades therein, or for any final judgment or conviction of any criminal offense involving moral turpitude by the court after having been given the opportunity to defend himself /herself in a proper administrative investigation.

Section 11. *Supervision of the Board.* – The secretary of the Board shall be appointed by the Commission subject to the provisions of existing laws and all records and minutes of the deliberation of proceedings of the Board and other confidential documents shall be kept under the direct custody of the Commission. The Commission shall provide the secretariat and other support services to implement the provisions of this Act.

Section 12. *Annual Report.* – The Board shall, within sixty (60) days after the close of each fiscal year, prepare and submit an annual report to the Commission, giving a detailed account of the proceedings of the Board during the year, recommending measures to be adopted, with the end in view of upgrading and improving the conditions affecting the practice of Dentistry in the Philippines.

ARTICLE III

LICENSURE EXAMINATION AND REGISTRATION

Section 13. *Examination Required.* – All applicants for registration for the practice of Dentistry, Dental Hygiene, Dental Technology shall be required to undergo a licensure examination to be given by the Board of Dentistry and in such places and dates as the Commission may designate subject to the compliance with the requirements prescribed by the Commission in accordance with Republic Act No. 8981. All applicants for registration for the practice of Dental laboratory Technician shall be required to undergo and passed the assessments and certification from any accredited TESDA Assessment Center. (to be deleted include in IRR)

Section 14. *Qualification for Admission to the Licensure Examination.* –

(a) For Dentistry – An applicant for the licensure examination for dentists shall establish to the satisfaction of the Board, that:

- (1) he/she is a citizen of the Philippines, or if a foreigner, must prove that the country of which he/she is a subject or citizen permits Filipino dentists to practice within its territorial jurisdiction on the same basis as the subjects or citizens of such country;
- (2) he/she has not been convicted of an offense involving moral turpitude;
- (3) he/she is a graduate of a recognized and legally constituted university, college, school or institute with a degree of doctor of dental medicine or it's equivalent; and
- (4) he/she has completed the refresher course required after failing three consecutive licensure examinations

(b) For Dental Hygiene – In order to be admitted to the licensure examination for dental hygienists, and applicant must at the time of filing his application thereof, establish to the satisfaction of the Board, that:

- (1) he/she is a citizen of the Philippines;
- (2) he/she possesses good moral character;
- (3) He/she had finished the two years certificate in dental hygiene conferred by a recognized and legally constituted college, or school of dentistry registered with NCIV accreditation the TEDSA;
- (4) He/she has completed the refresher course required after failing three consecutive licensure examinations

(c) For Dental Technology – In order to be admitted to the licensure examination for dental technology, an applicant must, at the time of filing his/her application thereof, establish to the satisfaction of the Board that:

(1) He/she is a citizen of the Philippines;

(2) He/she possesses good moral character;

(3) He/she had finished a two year certificate course of Dental Technology course on from any government recognized school with TESDA NCIV accreditation and has undergone On the Job training on a DOH Licensed to operate dental laboratory in dental technology from any government recognized school TESDA NCIV accreditation

(4) He/she has completed the refresher course required after failing three consecutive licensure examinations.

Section 15. *Qualification for Admission to the TESDA Assessment and Certification.* –

(a) For Dental Auxiliaries – In order to be admitted to the TESDA Assessment Center for Certification as dental technician, an applicant must, at the time of filing his/her application thereof, establish to the satisfaction of the TESDA Assessment Center that:

(1) He/she is a citizen of the Philippines;

(2) He/she possesses a good moral character;

(3) He/she had finished, any training courses in dental technology conferred by a recognized and legally constituted college, or school of dentistry registered with the TESDA.

(4) He/she has undergone on-the-job training in a registered/accredited dental laboratory and institutions for at least six months; and

(5) He/she has completed refresher course required after failing three consecutive TESDA Assessments. (To be deleted add in the IRR)

Section 16. Scope of Examination. – An examination shall be given to the licensure applicants for dentists, dental hygienists, dental technologists which shall include, but not limited to the following:

(a) For Dentists – General anatomy, oral anatomy, general and microscopic anatomy and embryology, general and oral physiology, general and oral pathology, pharmacology, microbiology, nutrition, dental materials, restorative dentistry, prosthodontics, orthodontics, pedodontics, pediatric dentistry, oral physiology, anesthesiology, oral diagnosis and treatment planning, endodontics, periodontics, roentgenology, oral surgery, dental jurisprudence and ethics, community dentistry and practice management. (revision should be based on the new curriculum of six years proper on dentistry from the CHED)

(b) For Dental Hygienists – oral anatomy and physiology, dental materials, periodontology, roentgenology, preventive dentistry, pedodontics, dental anesthesia and pharmacology, pathology, dental jurisprudence and ethics, and basic computer.

(c) For Dental Technologists – oral anatomy, oral physiology, complete, fixed and removable prosthodontics, ceramics, orthodontic appliances, dental materials, dental jurisprudence and ethics, and basic computer.

Section 17. Ratings in the Examinations. – The licensure examination shall consist of both written and practical tests and in order to pass the examination, an

examinee must obtain a general weighted average of at least seventy-five percent (75%), with no rating below fifty percent (50%) in any subject.

Section 18. *Report of the Results of the Examinations.* – The Board of Dentistry shall submit to the Commission the ratings obtained by each candidate within twenty (20) days after the last day of examination unless extended for just cause.

Section 19. *Oath.* – All successful examinees and registrants without examination shall be required to take a professional oath before any member of the Board or any other person authorized by the Commission or by law before they start their practice.

Section 20. *Issuance of the Certificate of Registration and Professional Identification Card.* – A certificate of registration shall be issued to examinees who pass the licensure examination for dentistry subject to payment of fees prescribed by the Commission. The certificate of registration shall bear the signature of the chairperson of the Commission and the chairman and members of the Board stamped with the official seal of the Board and the Commission, indicating the person named therein is entitled to practice the profession with all the benefits and privileges appurtenant thereto. The certificate of registration shall, remain in force and effect until revoked or suspended in accordance with this Act.

A professional identification card bearing the registration number, date of issuance, expiry date, duly signed by the chairperson of the Commission shall likewise be issued to every registrant upon payment of the required fees. The professional identification card shall be renewed every three years upon payment of fees and upon satisfying the requirements of the Board.

Section 21. *Fees for Examination and Registration.* – Every applicant to the licensure examination for dentistry shall pay an examination fee and registration fee as determined and fixed by the Commission for dentists, dental hygienists, dental technologists and by TESDA.

Section 22. *Refusal to Issue Certificates for Certain Causes.* – The Board and shall refuse to issue a certificate of registration to any successful examinee who

has been convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction of any criminal offense involving moral turpitude or has been found guilty of immoral or dishonorable conduct after investigation by the Board, it has been declared to be of unsound mind. The reason for the refusal shall be set for in writing.

Section 23. *Revocation or Suspension of Certificate of Registration and Professional Identification Card and Cancellation of Temporary/ Special Permit.*

– The Board shall have the power to recommend the nullification or suspension of the validity of the certificate of registration and professional identification card of a dentist, dental technologist, dental hygienist and dental technician or the cancellation of a temporary/special permit for any of the causes mentioned in the preceding section, or for:

- (a) Unprofessional and unethical conduct;
- (b) Malpractice;
- (c) Incompetence, serious ignorance or negligence in the practice of dentistry, dental hygiene, dental technology;
- (d) Willful destruction or mutilation of a natural tooth of a patient with the deliberate purpose of substituting the same by an unnecessary or unessential artificial tooth;
- (e) For making use of fraud, deceitful or false statement to obtain a certificate of registration;
- (f) For alcoholism or drug addiction causing him/her to become incompetent to practice dentistry, dental hygiene and dental technology;
- (g) For the employment of persons who are not duly authorized to do the work which, under this Act, can only be done by persons who have certificates of registration to practice dentistry, dental hygiene, dental technology in the Philippines;
- (h) For the employment of deceit or any form of fraud with the public in general or some clients in particular for the purpose of extending his/her clientele;

Board may designate the accredited professional organization, through its constituent chapters and affiliates, to monitor such activities.

ARTICLE IV
PRACTICE OF DENTISTRY, DENTAL HYGIENE, DENTAL TECHNOLOGY AND
DENTAL TECHNICIAN

Section 26. *Code of Ethics and Code of Dental Practice for Dentists.* – The Board shall adopt and promulgate the Code of Ethics and Code of Dental Practice of dentists, dental hygienists, dental technologists and prescribed and issued by the accredited professional organization of dentists.

Section 27. *Vested Rights.* – All dentists, dental hygienists, dental technologist registered at the time this law takes effect shall automatically be registered under the provisions hereof, subject however to the provisions herein set forth as to future requirements. Certificates of registration held by such persons in good standing shall have the same force and effect as though issued after the passage of this Act.

Section 28. *Registration Without Examination for Dental Hygienists and Dental Technologists.* – A person who possesses the equivalent qualifications required for admission in the examination for dental hygienist or dental technologist pursuant to this Act, may be registered without examination. Provided, That the applicant files with the Board within three years after the effectivity of this Act, an application for registration and issuance of a certificate of registration and professional identification card, by submitting credentials showing that the applicant, before the effectivity of this Act;

- (a) Had been given a certificate in dental hygiene or dental technology by a duly recognized college, school or institution and had at least three years actual experience as dental hygienist or dental technologist in an accredited or licensed dental clinic or laboratory; or

- (b) Had been practicing as a dental hygienist or dental technologist for at least five years in a licensed dental laboratory or clinic under the supervision of a dentist and had attended a training course given by an accredited school or institution accredited and certified by TESDA

Section 29. *Display of Name and Certificate of Registration.* – Every registered practicing dentist, dental hygienist and dental technologist shall display in a conspicuous place in the building or office where he/she practices, his/her certificate or registration in plain sight of patients who enter the dental office, or dental clinic or dental laboratory. In the case where the dentist has more than one clinic, the original certificate of shall display a copy of his/her certified original certificate of registration in the other branch or branches of his/her practice. Any owner or proprietor of a dental office or establishment shall display the certificates of registration of each and everyone of such persons in the same manner as hereinafter provided.

Section 30. *Definition and Classification of Dental Clinic or Oral Health Facility.* –

- (a) Government Dental Clinic/ Oral Health Facility and Dental Laboratory – created by law. A government dental clinic or oral health facility and dental laboratory may be under the national government, DOH, Local Government Unit (LGU), Department of National Defense (DND), Philippine National Police (PNP), Department of Justice (DOJ), State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), Government Owned and Controlled Corporations (GOCC), and others.
- (b) Private Dental Clinic/ Oral Health Facility and Dental Laboratory – owned, established and operated with funds through donations, principal, investment, or other means by any licensed dentist, corporation, association or organization. A private dental clinic/ oral health facility and dental laboratory may be a single proprietorship, corporation, cooperative, foundation, religious, non-government organization and others.

- (c) A registered dental clinic or dental/ oral health facility shall be established and operated ONLY by a licensed dentist;
- (d) A licensed dental laboratory with single proprietorship shall be owned, established and operated by a licensed dentist or licensed dental technologist;
- (e) In the case where the dentist owner has more than one licensed dental laboratory, the said licensed dentist owner and/or dental technologist shall manage and operate the said laboratory with licensed dental laboratory technician(s) working in the said licensed dental laboratory located within a 3-5 km radius from the registered dental office- clinic of the licensed dentist owner. Dental technologist and/or dental laboratory technicians shall work under the supervision of the licensed dentist owner.
- (f) In the case where the dental technologist owner has more than one licensed dental laboratory, a licensed dentist shall supervise the said laboratory with another licensed dental technologist who shall also supervise the licensed dental laboratory technician(s) working in the said licensed dental laboratory located within 3-5 km radius from the registered dental office- clinic of the supervising licensed dentist.

NOTE: Based on the PD 1542 (an Act for the regulation and licensing of dental laboratory under DOH) dental technologist shall supervise the DOH licensed dental laboratory, however due to lack of numbers of registered dental technologist in the country, the DOH still allows the licensed dentist to supervise the dental laboratory specially in provinces where there is scarcity on the number of registered dental technologist.

- (g) A private licensed dental clinic or facility and/or dental laboratory owned, established and operated by any corporation, cooperative, foundation, religious, non-government association or organization and others shall have at least one (1) licensed dentist as shareholder or incorporator; and A private licensed dental laboratory owned, established and operated by any corporation, foundation, religious, non-government association or

organization and others shall have at least one (1) licensed dentist as shareholder or incorporator and shall be managed and operated by a licensed dentists and dental technologist.

- (h) A private licensed Dental Health Maintenance Organizations or Providers of Dental Insurances or Plans owned, established and operated by any corporation, cooperative, foundation, religious, non-government association or organization and others shall have at least one (1) licensed dentist, mandated to protect the interest of the profession;
- (i) Private Dental Manufacturer, Importer, Distributor, Trader, or Supplier shall be owned, established and operated by any person, corporation, foundation, religious, non-government association or organization and others who is a holder of a valid Department of Health (DOH) Licensed to manufacture, import, provides, give, distribute and sell DOH- FDA & PRC regulated dental instruments, dental equipment and dental supplies upon receipt of signed written orders or authorization only from licensed and registered dentists, dental technologists and/or said faculty or the company name. Dental students practicing Dentistry in a legally constituted school, college or university or TESDA accredited schools shall purchase or receive their dental materials and supplies only at the said school, college, university or TESDA accredited school dental dispensary. Provided that any private dental manufacturer, importer, distributor, trader or supplier of dental products with sole proprietorship, partnership or corporate ownership in the Philippines shall be supervised by a licensed dentist;

Section 31. General Guidelines. – Display of Name, Certificate of Registration and License to Operate a Dental Clinic or facility, Dental Laboratory and Dental Manufacturer, Importer, Distributor, Trader or Supplier.

- (a) Every registered practicing dentist, dental hygienist, dental technologist and dental technician shall display in a conspicuous place in the building or office where he/she practices, his/her name and his/her certificate or registration in plain sight of patients who enter the dental clinic and dental laboratory;

- (b) In the case where the dentist has more than one clinic, the original certificate of registration should be displayed in his/her main office- clinic, and he/she shall display a copy of his/her certified original certificate of registration in the other branch or branches of his/her practice aside from that of his/her other co-managing licensed dentist, licensed dental hygienists, licensed dental technologists or licensed dental technicians;
- (c) All public and private dental clinics or oral health facilities and dental laboratories shall adhere and ensure to strict compliance to infection control and supervision practices provided by the Professional Regulation Commission Board of Dentistry, Department of Health and accredited and integrated professional organizations and/or its affiliate chapters; (to be included in IRR)

Section 32. *Continuing Professional Education.* –

- (a) The PRC Board in collaboration with the accredited professional organization (APO) and/or TESDA, shall implement the continuing professional education among practicing dentists, dental hygienists, dental technologists and dental laboratory technicians in consonance with the guidelines of the Continuing Professional Education (CPE) council of the Commission. Exemption from the CPE program may be applied for upon reaching the age of sixty five (65).

Section 33. *Internship and fellowship program*

- (a) All qualified and recognized Commission on Higher Education schools, colleges or universities or TESDA accredited schools offering dentistry courses shall offer at least one (1) Graduate Degree Program for licensed dentists in collaboration with the Commission on Higher Education, Private and Government Training Hospitals, Professional Regulation Commission and its Accredited Professional Organizations leading to M.S. in Dentistry which will prepare newly graduates and licensed dentists for leadership roles in dental

research, education, administration, and advance clinical and oral sciences.
(same as IRR)

(b) All Government Training Hospitals shall include in its budget the compensation and/ or allowances of licensed dentists/residents who wish to pursue a Graduate Degree Training and Fellowship Program in Dentistry in the said government health training facilities including the compensation and/ or allowances of the hospital resident dental and medical faculty or consultants comparable to that being received by the local counterpart in other government hospital training programs as Dentist II for hospital resident dentist, Dental III for hospital faculty member-consultant and Dental IV for Hospital Graduate Training or Fellowship Program Had or Chairman as provided in the annual general Appropriations Act.

Section 34. *Integration of Dentists and Dental Hygienists and Dental Technologists.* – registered dentists and dental hygienists and dental technologists shall be integrated into one national organization Philippine Dental Association which shall be recognized by the Board and accredited by the Commission as the one the only accredited integrated association to which all dentists, dental hygienists, and dental technologists shall belong. Henceforth, all dentists, dental hygienists and dental technologists to be registered with the Board shall automatically become a member of the accredited and integrated professional organization upon payment of hygienist and dental technologist shall not be a bar to membership in other associations of dentists, dental hygienists, dental technologists.

Section 35. *Foreign Reciprocity.* – unless the country of which he/she is a subject or citizen specifically permits Filipino dentists to practice within its territorial limits on the same basis as the subject or citizens of such foreign state or country under reciprocity and under international agreements, no foreigner shall be admitted to the examination and be given a certificate of registration to practice as a dentist and be entitled to any of privileges under this Act.

Section 36. Roster of Dentists, Dental Hygienists, Dental Technologists –

The Board, in coordination with the accredited professional organization (APO), shall maintain a roster of the name, residences and of the addresses of all registered dentists, dental hygienists, dental technologists and shall make this roster available to the public upon request (Subject to data privacy act.)

Section 37. Penal Provision. – The following, shall be punished by a fine of not less that Six hundred thousand pesos (P600,000.00) nor more than Eight Hundred Thousand Pesos (P800,000.00) and to suffer imprisonment for a period of not less than six years and one day nor more than eight years, upon the discretion of the court:

- (a) Any person who shall practice dentistry, dental hygiene, dental technology or in the Philippines as defined in this Act, without a certificate of registration and professional identification card and special permit issued in accordance with the provisions of this Act, or has been declared exempt;
- (b) Any person who practice the profession to whom the definition of the practice of dentistry, dental hygiene, dental technology and does not apply;
- (c) Any person, licensed dentist, dental hygienist. Dental technologist or who shall abet the illegal practice of dentistry;
- (d) Any person who shall take an impression in the patient's mouth or assist any illegal dental practitioner in taking an impression in the patient's mouth using an alginate, rubber impression or other related materials without a certificate of registration and professional identification card and special permit issued in accordance with the provisions of this Act.
- (e) Any person presenting or using as his/her own the certificate of registration and professional identification card and special permit of another;
- (f) Any person who shall give any false or forged evidence to the Board in obtaining a certificate of registration;

- (g) Any person who shall impersonate any registrant of like or different name;
- (h) Any person who shall revoked or suspended certificate of registration and professional identification card;
- (i) Any students of dentistry undergoing practical training in a legally constituted dental school or college practicing dentistry who will engage in the mechanical construction of artificial dentures and other oral devices outside the premises of the legally constituted dental school, college or university, TESDA accredited school without an approved Special Temporary License (STP) approved and issued by the PRC Board with or without the direction or supervision of any member of the faculty in a legally constituted dental school college, or universities in the Philippines.
- (j) Any member of the faculty in a legally constituted dental school, college or university or who is duly licensed to practice dentistry in the Philippines who shall abet the illegal practice of dentistry with a student of dentistry undergoing practical training in a legally constituted dental school, college or universities in the Philippines;
- (k) Any person who shall assume, use or advertise as a bachelor of dental surgery, doctor of dental surgery, master of dental surgery, licentiate of dental surgery, doctor of dental medicine, (DDM) or dental surgeon, Dental Technologist (RDH), without having been conferred such title or degree in a legally constituted school, college, TESDA accredited school or university, duly recognized and authorized to confer the same or other degrees;
- (l) Any person who advertises any title or description tending to convey the impression that he/she is a dentist, without holding valid certificate of registration and professional identification card and special permit from the Board; and.
- (m) Any owner of dental laboratory or dental laboratory technologist who shall display their name or the name of their laboratory outside the premises of the

licensed or registered establishment or building where their laboratory is located. (UNDER IRR) REFER TO DENTAL TECHNOLOGY AND DENTAL ETHICS

- (n) Any person who manufactures, imports, provides, gives, distributes and sells any regulated dental instruments, equipment, dental materials and supplies to any person without a certificate of registration issued by the Professional Regulation Commission as registered or licensed dentist, dental technologist or licensed dental hygienist or to dental students undergoing practical training in a legally constituted dental school, college or TESDA accredited school without an official request or purchase order approved and signed by any member of the faculty who is duly licensed to practice dentistry in the Philippines. Furthermore, dental students can only purchase and receive the said dental materials and supplies directly from school, college, TESDA or university Dental Dispensary that shall be established in a legally constituted dental school, college or university or TESDA accredited school offering dentistry courses based on their clinical requirements in an affordable, reasonable and discounted prices which will be pre-negotiated by the representatives of the dental student council and the school college or universities or TESDA accredited school offering dentistry courses. (TO BE DELETED INCLUDE IRR)

Section 38. *Enforcement of this Act.* – it shall be the duty of all constituted officers of the law of the national, provincial, city, municipal or barangay level of the government, to enforce the provisions of this Act as well as the rules and regulations pertinent thereto, and to prosecute any person violating the same. The Secretary of Justice shall act as the legal adviser if the Board and the Commission and shall render such legal assistance as may be necessary in carrying out the provisions of this Act.

ARTICLE VI

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Section 39. *Funding Provisions.* – the Chairperson of the Professional Regulation Commission shall immediately include in the Commission's programs the

implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 40. *Transitory Provision.* – The existing Board shall continue to function in the interim until such time that the new Professional Regulatory Board of Dentistry shall be constituted pursuant to this Act.

Section 41. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – the Board, in coordination with the accredited professional organization and with the approval of the Commission, shall promulgate, adopt and implement such rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Section 42. *Separability Clause.* – if any section or provision of this Act shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, such shall not invalidate any other section or provision of this Act.

Section 43. *Repealing Clause.* – Republic Act No. 9484, Republic Act 4419 and Republic Act No. 768, are hereby repealed. All other laws or portions thereof, orders, ordinances, or rules and regulations in conflict with the provisions of this Act as pertain to the practice of dentistry shall be, and are hereby repealed.

Section 44. *Effectivity.* – this Act shall take effect following its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation; Provided that the registration for dental technicians shall take effect after 3 years pursuant to this Act

Approved,