

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

04 JUN 30 P4:18

S E N A T E

RECEIVED BY: Atte

S. No. 335

Introduced by Senator S. R. Osmeña III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 4419 otherwise known as "The Philippine Dental Act of 1965," was approved on June 19, 1965 mainly to provide for the regulation, control and supervision of the practice of dentistry in the Philippines. Experts consider the practice of dentistry as one of the leading and important professions in the Philippines today. In fact, economists have expressed major concern over the dental health problems of the country stating that "in economic terms, every tooth affected means the loss of productivity of two days." More than thirty years after the approval of R.A. 4419, it is believed that the law no longer reflects the present state of dental profession due to economic developments, scientific advances and technological trends that need to be addressed.

Thus, the proposed bill seeks to amend R.A. 4419 for the purpose of encouraging Filipino dentists prepare themselves for global competition and keeping them abreast of socio-economic development, scientific advances, and technological breakthroughs. Among the salient features of the proposed measure are the following namely:

1. To safeguard the public against those who would be specialists who do not meet the necessary qualifications of a specialist, by regulating the proliferation of specialty groups;
2. To conform with provisions of Presidential Decree No. 223 as amended, creating the Professional Regulation Commission;
3. To eliminate the possibility that unlicensed graduates of dentistry embark in illegal practice;
4. To upgrade the standard of the profession by requiring those who had failed three times in the Board Examinations to take a refresher course for one year in a dental school or college accredited by the Professional Regulation Commission.
5. To enhance the profession by seeking congressional funding for the Council for the Advancement of Dental Research.
6. To further protect the private practitioners and the public as well, by increasing the penalty for any violation of the measure with a fine ranging from fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) to Two

Hundred thousand pesos (P200,000.00) or imprisonment of not less than ten years and one day nor more than twenty years, or both; and

7. To make the Regulatory Code of Dental Practice as an integral part of the proposed measure.

In the light of government's objective to prepare Filipino professionals toward modernization and globalization, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



SERGIO OSMEÑA III
Senator

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

)
)
)
04 JUN 30 P4:18

S E N A T E

s. No. 335

RECEIVED BY: Ordu

Introduced by Senator S. R. Osmeña III

AN ACT

UPGRADING THE STANDARD OF DENTAL PROFESSION IN THE PHILIPPINES AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4419 ENTITLED, "AN ACT TO REGULATE THE PRACTICE OF DENTISTRY IN THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

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

1 SECTION 1. Short Title. This Act shall be known as the "**Philippine**
2 **Dental Reform Act of 2004.**"

3 Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy. It is hereby declared the policy of the State
4 to prepare Filipino professionals for global competition. To this end, the
5 government shall take necessary steps to upgrade the standards in the practice
6 of dental profession in the Philippines to keep Filipino dentists abreast of
7 scientific advances and technological breakthroughs.

8 Sec. 3. Republic Act No. 4419, otherwise known as the "Philippine
9 Dental Act of 1965 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10 ARTICLE I - Title of Act

11 SECTION 1. Title of Act. — This Act shall be known as "The Philippine
12 Dental REFORM Act of [1965] 2004."

13 ARTICLE II - Objectives and Implementation

14 SEC. 2. Objectives. — This Act provides for (a) the regulation,
15 control and supervision of the practice of dentistry in the Philippines; (b)

1 the giving of licensure examinations to graduates of recognized [dental]
2 schools OF DENTISTRY for the purpose of registration; (C) THE
3 ACCREDITATION, MONITORING AND SUPERVISION OF THE
4 VARIOUS SPECIALTIES; [(c)] (D) the regulation and standardization of
5 UNDERGRADUATE AND POST-GRADUATE CONTINUING dental
6 education; [(d)] (E) the promotion and development of dental research in
7 the country; (F) THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE REGULATORY CODE
8 OF ETHICS AND DENTAL PRACTICE IN THE PHILIPPINES WHICH IS
9 HEREBY MADE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS ACT; and [(e)] (G) the
10 stipulation of penalties for infractions or violations of this Act, or any other
11 laws, rules and regulations authorized under the provisions of this Act.

12 SEC. 3. Implementation. — For the purpose of attaining or carrying out
13 the objectives of this Act, and in order to implement the [other]
14 provisions thereof, [there are created] the following agencies ARE
15 HEREBY CREATED; (a) [The] Board of [Dental Examiners] DENTISTRY;
16 (b) [The] Council [on] OF Dental Education; and (c) [The] Council for the
17 Advancement of Dental Research.

18 ARTICLE III - The Board of [Dental Examiners] DENTISTRY

19 SEC. 4. Composition. — The Board of [Dental Examiners] DENTISTRY
20 shall be composed of five members to be appointed by the President of
21 the Philippines from among [candidates certified] NOMINEES
22 RECOMMENDED BY THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATIONS
23 COMMISSION AS NOMINATED by the Philippine Dental Association
24 [and/or any other bona fide dental association,] upon the
25 recommendation of its constituent chapter societies [or affiliate
26 organizations], as possessing the qualifications prescribed in Section
27 [five] 5 of this Act [, said appointments being subject to confirmation by
28 the Commission on Appointments].

1 SEC. 5. Qualifications. — [The] A member[s] of the Board shall, at
2 the time of HIS appointment FOR THE DURATION OF HIS
3 INCUMBENCY: (a) be a natural-born citizen of the Philippines and
4 actually resident thereof; (B) BE OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER AND
5 INTEGRITY AS CERTIFIED BY THE CHAPTER; [(b)] (C) be a duly
6 registered dentist in the Philippines; [(c)] (D) must have had at least ten
7 years practice of the profession; (E) MUST HAVE AT LEAST FIVE (5)
8 CONSECUTIVE YEARS TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND MUST HAVE A
9 POST-GRADUATE EDUCATION IN DENTISTRY; [(d)] must not be a
10 member of the UNDERGRADUATE faculty of any school, college or
11 university where dentistry is taught, nor shall have, directly or indirectly,
12 any pecuniary interest in such institution FOR A PERIOD OF THREE (3)
13 YEARS PRIOR TO HIS APPOINTMENT; [(e)] (G) must not be connected
14 in any capacity with any business enterprise, firm or company engaged in
15 the buying, selling or manufacture of dental goods, equipment, materials
16 or supplies FOR A PERIOD OF THREE (3) YEARS PRIOR TO HIS
17 APPOINTMENT; and [(f)] (H) must be a member of good standing of the
18 Philippine Dental Association [and/or any other bona fide dental
19 association] AND HIS LOCAL CHAPTER SOCIETY for at the last five
20 years, PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT NO MEMBER OF THE BOARD
21 MAY QUALIFY TO ANY POSITION, ELECTIVE OR APPOINTIVE IN
22 THE PHILIPPINE DENTAL ASSOCIATION AND/OR OTHER DENTAL
23 ORGANIZATIONS DULY ACCREDITED BY THE PROFESSIONAL
24 REGULATIONS COMMISSION DURING HIS INCUMBENCY.

25 SEC. 6. [Tenure] TERM of Office. — The members of the Board
26 shall serve for a term of five (5) years [: Provided, however, That not
27 more than one member shall be appointed for the full term within the
28 same calendar year, and that appointments shall be made to fill existing
29 vacancies only, so that the term of one member shall be due to expire

1 every year: Provided, further, That] The member serving the last year of
2 his term shall automatically become the chairman of the Board, and shall
3 not be [entitled] ABLE to succeed himself immediately after the expiration
4 of his tenure of office; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT APPOINTMENT
5 FOR ANY EXISTING VACANCY OR VACANCIES SHALL BE MADE
6 WITHIN ONE MONTH FROM THE TIME THE VACANCY OCCURRED
7 FOR THE UNEXPIRED TERM ONLY, SO THAT THE TERM OF ONE
8 MEMBER SHALL BE DUE TO EXPIRE EVERY YEAR..

9 SEC. 7. Compensation. — The CHAIRMAN AND members of the
10 Board shall [each] receive [as] A BASIC compensation, [a fee of ten
11 pesos per capita of the candidates examined] AS PROVIDED BY THE
12 PROFESSIONAL REGULATIONS COMMISSION. [The chairman of the
13 Board shall receive no extra compensation.]

14 SEC. 8. Removal from office. — Any member of the Board,
15 including the chairman, may be removed for [incompetency or continued
16 neglect of duty, for commission or toleration of irregularities in the
17 examination, or, for unprofessional or dishonorable conduct,] ANY OF
18 THE FOLLOWING CAUSES after a proper administrative investigation:
19 (A) INCOMPETENCE OR NEGLECT OF DUTY, (B) COMMISSION OR
20 TOLERANCE OF IRREGULARITIES IN THE QUALIFYING
21 EXAMINATIONS, AND (C) UNPROFESSIONAL OR DISHONORABLE
22 CONDUCT.

23 SEC. 9. Powers vested in THE Board. — The Board of [Dental
24 Examiners] DENTISTRY is vested with authority, conformably with the
25 provisions of this Act[.]; (A) to issue, suspend or revoke certificates of
26 registration for the practice of dentistry, or to reissue the same, subject to
27 the [approval of the President of the Philippines] DECISION OF THE
28 PROFESSIONAL REGULATIONS COMMISSION[.]; (B) [The Board shall
29 have the power] to administer oaths[,] TO NEW DENTISTS; (C) to

1 investigate violations of this Act or other laws and regulations within the
2 jurisdiction of the Board, and for this purpose, it may, under the hand of
3 its chairman and seal of the Board, issue a summons, subpoena or
4 subpoena duces tecum to alleged violators of this Act and witnesses
5 thereof, and thereby compel their attendance[.] [The Board shall also
6 have the power to visit dental schools to determine whether the minimum
7 requirements prescribed by law and/or the Council on Dental Education
8 are complied with. The Board shall exercise the powers conferred upon it
9 by this Act, shall from time to time] (D) TO look FROM TIME TO TIME
10 into the conditions affecting the practice of dentistry in the Philippines
11 [, and] (E) whenever necessary, TO adopt or recommend such
12 measures, or discharge such duties, as may be deemed proper for the
13 advancement of the profession[, the maintenance of accepted ethical and
14 technical standards,] and the vigorous enforcement of this Act; AND (F)
15 TO ACCREDIT AND REGULATE CENTERS OFFERRING REVIEW
16 COURSES, STUDY CLUBS, REFRESHER COURSES, SEMINARS,
17 WORKSHOPS AND CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS, NOT
18 UNIVERSITY BASED EXCEPT PRC SPECIALTY ORGANIZATIONS..

19 SEC. 10. Rules and regulations. — The Board of [Dental
20 Examiners] DENTISTRY, with the approval of the [Commissioner of Civil
21 Service] PROFESSIONAL REGULATIONS COMMISSION, shall
22 promulgate, [and] adopt AND IMPLEMENT such rules and regulations
23 [as may be necessary] to [implement or] carry out the provisions of this
24 Act [, especially those relating to the proper conduct of the examinations,
25 custody and correction of examination papers, registration of dentists,
26 and enforcement of the Code of Ethics for dentists].

27 SEC. 11. Secretary of the Board. — The secretary of the
28 PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY Board[s of Examiners] SHALL BE
29 appointed BY THE COMMISSIONER OF THE PROFESSIONAL

1 REGULATIONS COMMISSION [in accordance with Section one of
2 Republic Act Numbered Five hundred forty-six shall also be the secretary
3 of the Board of Dental Examiners] SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF
4 EXISTING LAWS. All records and minutes of the deliberations and
5 proceedings of the Board, [including examination papers] and other
6 confidential documents[,] shall be kept [by the Civil Service Commission]
7 under the direct custody of the [secretary of the Board] PROFESSIONAL
8 REGULATIONS COMMISSION. The secretary shall also keep a
9 complete register of all persons to whom certificates of registration as
10 dentist have been issued, indicating the name, sex, age, date and place
11 of birth, post office address, the name of the school or university where
12 the registrant graduated, date of graduation, and the date [when he
13 passed] OF AND RATING IN the qualifying examinations.

14 SEC. 12. Annual report. — The Board shall, within sixty days after
15 the close of each fiscal year, prepare and submit an annual report to the
16 [President of the Philippines] COMMISSIONER OF THE
17 PROFESSIONAL REGULATIONS COMMISSION which shall include a
18 detailed account of the proceedings of the Board during the year, an up-
19 to-date register of dentists in the country, [indicating those in private
20 practice and those in the government service,] and [embodying such]
21 recommendation as the Board may desire to make.

22 ARTICLE IV - Examination and Registration

23 SEC. 13. Prerequisite to the practice of dentistry. — Unless
24 specifically exempt and authorized by this Act, no person shall engage in
25 the practice of dentistry in the Philippines without a certificate of
26 registration as dentist issued to him by the Board of [Dental Examiners]
27 DENTISTRY after successfully passing the required qualifying
28 LICENSURE examination FOR DENTISTS.

1 SEC. 14. Definition of practice of dentistry. — A person shall be
2 regarded as [engaged in the practice of] PRACTICING dentistry or
3 rendering dental service, within the meaning and intent of this Act, who
4 shall, for a fee, salary, compensation, or [any form of] reward, paid to him
5 or through another, or even without such compensation or reward,
6 perform any operation or part of an operation, upon the human mouth,
7 jaws, teeth, and surrounding tissues; prescribe drugs or medicines for the
8 treatment of oral diseases and lesions; or correct malpositions of the
9 teeth: Provided, however, That this provision shall not apply to artisans or
10 DENTAL technicians engaged in the mechanical construction of artificial
11 dentures or fixtures and other oral devices, as long as none of such
12 procedure is done inside the mouth of the patient; nor shall this provision
13 apply to students of dentistry undergoing practical training in a legally
14 constituted dental school or college under the direction or supervision of
15 a member of the faculty who is duly licensed to practice dentistry in the
16 Philippines: or to registered dental hygienists serving as [dentists']
17 DENTAL assistants who may be allowed to perform PREVENTIVE oral
18 [prophylaxis and such other] HYGIENE procedures which the law
19 regulating the practice of dental hygienists may permit; OR TO
20 UNDERBOARD DENTAL GRADUATES WORKING AS DENTAL
21 ASSISTANTS TO LICENSED AND REGISTERED DENTISTS
22 AUTHORIZED TO PRACTICE DENTISTRY IN THE PHILIPPINES WHO
23 ARE ENGAGED IN PRIVATE PRACTICE; PROVIDED, THAT THESE
24 UNDERBOARD DENTAL GRADUATES WORK UNDER THEIR DIRECT
25 SUPERVISION.

26 SEC. 15. Exemption from registration. — Certificates of
27 registration shall not be required of commissioned dental officers of the
28 army, navy and air forces of any foreign country, whose operations in the
29 Philippines are permitted by the Government, while rendering DENTAL

1 service as such for the members of said forces only; and of dentists or
2 oral surgeons from other countries who are invited for consultations [or]
3 AND demonstrations, provided that in such cases their work shall be
4 limited to the specific tasks assigned to them [, and] provided further, that
5 a [previous authority has been granted by the Board of Dental Examiners,
6 who shall have the discretion to determine the duration of said authority]
7 SPECIAL PERMIT HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY GRANTED BY THE
8 BOARD OF DENTISTRY STATING THEREIN THE DURATION OF
9 SUCH PERMIT, but in no case shall it exceed the period of [thirty]
10 FIFTEEN (15) days; PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT THE PHILIPPINE
11 DENTAL ASSOCIATION THROUGH ITS CONSTITUENT CHAPTER
12 AND AFFILIATE SHALL MONITOR SUCH ACTIVITIES.

13 SEC. 16. Frequency of examination. — Licensure examinations for
14 candidates desiring to practice dentistry in the Philippines shall be
15 conducted by the Board twice a year in Manila, the first examination to be
16 held not earlier than two months nor later than three months after the
17 termination of the school year, the second one to be held six months
18 thereafter, subject to the approval of the [Commissioner of Civil Service]
19 PROFESSIONAL REGULATIONS COMMISSION. The Board shall
20 publish or cause to be published the date[s] of examination, or any
21 change thereof, at least ninety days before the scheduled examination.

22 SEC. 17. Qualifications for admission to examination. — In order
23 to be admitted to the licensure examination for dentists, an applicant
24 must, at the time of filing his application [therefor], establish to the
25 satisfaction of the Board that: (a) he is a citizen of the Philippines; OR IF
26 HE IS A CITIZEN OF ANY FOREIGN COUNTRY, THAT HE SATISFIES
27 THE REQUIREMENT FOR RECIPROCITY AS CONTEMPLATED
28 UNDER SECTION 38 OF THIS ACT, AS WELL AS THE PROVISIONS
29 OF THE RECIPROCITY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO

1 COUNTRIES WHETHER AN EXAMINATION IS REQUIRED OR NOT;
2 (b) he possesses good moral character; [(c) he had finished at least a
3 two-year pre-dental course which complies with the minimum
4 requirements of the Council on Dental Education; and (d)] (C) he [shall be
5 a holder of the degree of either] IS A GRADUATE OF RECOGNIZED
6 AND LEGALLY CONSTITUTED UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE, SCHOOL OR
7 INSTITUTE WITH A DEGREE OF Doctor of Dental Medicine (D.M.D.) [or
8 Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.),] or [their] ITS equivalent[s, conferred
9 by a recognized and legally constituted university, college, school or
10 institute]; AND (D) IF HE HAD FAILED IN EITHER THE EXAMINATION
11 FOR DENTISTS FOR THREE TIMES, HE MUST TAKE A REFRESHER
12 COURSE FOR ONE YEAR IN A DENTAL SCHOOL OR COLLEGE
13 ACCREDITED BY THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATIONS
14 COMMISSION; PROVIDED, THAT SUCH APPLICANT MUST PRESENT
15 A CERTIFICATION TO THIS EFFECT FROM THE DEAN OF THE
16 COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY WHERE HE TOOK THE REFRESHER
17 COURSE; AND PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT THIS GIVES THE
18 APPLICANT THE OPPORTUNITY FOR ANOTHER THREE
19 EXAMINATIONS THEREAFTER.

20 SEC. 18. Scope of examination. — The licensure examination for
21 the practice of dentistry in the Philippines shall consist of both written and
22 performance tests, the scope of which shall be determined and
23 prescribed by the Board, taking into consideration the teaching plans and
24 educational standards of the state and private dental colleges in the
25 country. It shall include such subjects as general anatomy, oral anatomy,
26 general [histology, oral histology] AND MICROSCOPIC ANATOMY and
27 embryology, general pathology, [oral pathology,] general physiology, oral
28 physiology, pharmacology, microbiology, [biochemistry,] oral diagnosis
29 and treatment planning, oral surgery, [anesthesia] ANESTHESIOLOGY,

1 [dental] roentgenology, periodontics, endodontics, nutrition, dental
2 materials, restorative dentistry, prosthodontics, orthodontics, [public
3 health dentistry,] dental jurisprudence AND ETHICS, [dental economics,
4 ethics,] PEDODONTICS, COMMUNITY REGISTRY and [private]
5 PRACTICE management. It shall be the duty of the Board to prepare the
6 schedule of subjects [in] ON the written TEST and THE EXERCISES IN
7 THE performance tests and to publish the same as approved at least two
8 months before the date of examination wherein they are to be used;
9 PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE SUBJECTS AND EXERCISES
10 FOR WHICH EACH BOARD MEMBER SHALL BE ASSIGNED
11 RESPECTIVELY MUST BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH HIS FIELD OF
12 PRACTICE AND SPECIALTY OR EXPERTISE AS DEEMED PROPER
13 AND JUDICIOUS BY THE COMMISSION.

14 SEC. 19. Report of ratings. — The Board of [Dental Examiners]
15 DENTISTRY shall, within [one hundred] SIXTY (60) days after the last
16 day of the examination, report the ratings obtained by each candidate to
17 the Commissioner of [Civil Service] THE PROFESSIONAL
18 REGULATIONS COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL AND RELEASE,; [who
19 shall, with his recommendations, submit such results to the President of
20 the Philippines for approval and release.]; PROVIDED, THAT FOR AS
21 LONG AS THE LICENSURE EXAMINATIONS SHALL CONSIST OF
22 BOTH WRITTEN AND PERFORMANCE TESTS, FOR THE PURPOSE
23 OF RANKING THE SUCCESSFUL EXAMINEES IN THE LIST TO BE
24 RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION, THE GRADES ON BOTH THE
25 WRITTEN AND PERFORMANCE TESTS SHALL BE TAKEN ON THE
26 AVERAGE; AND PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT FOR PURPOSES OF
27 PASSING AND/OR REPEATING SUBJECT/S FAILED IN, THIS SHALL
28 BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF
29 THE BOARD AS APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION. Failure on the

1 part of the Board to report the ratings within the specified time shall mean
2 forfeiture of fifty percent of the compensation due the members of the
3 Board in that particular examination.

4 SEC. 20. Issuance of certificates. — Certificate of registration as
5 dentist shall, upon the recommendation of the Board AND THE
6 PROFESSIONAL REGULATIONS COMMISSION, be issued to any
7 applicant [who,] after [the approval] of his ratings by the Commissioner of
8 Civil Service and the President of the Philippines and the payment of the
9 required registration fee], has satisfactorily met all the requirements
10 specified in this Act:] ; Provided, however, That no certificate of
11 registration shall be issued to any applicant who has not reached the
12 LEGAL age [of twenty-one years].

13 Every certificate of registration shall show the full name of the
14 registrant, shall have a serial number, and must be signed by the
15 chairman and members of the Board, AND the Commissioner of [Civil
16 Service and the secretary of the Board] THE PROFESSIONAL
17 REGULATIONS COMMISSION, and shall be authenticated by the official
18 seal of the Board AND OF THE COMMISSION. The issuance by the
19 Board of a certificate of registration to the registrant shall be evidence
20 that the person named therein is entitled to all the rights and privileges of
21 a registered dentist while said certificate remains unrevoked or
22 unsuspended.

23 SEC. 21. Fees for examination and registration. — Every applicant
24 to the licensure examination for [dentists] DENTISTRY shall pay an
25 examination fee [of sixty pesos] and a [fee of ten pesos for] registration
26 FEE AS DETERMINED AND FIXED BY THE PROFESSIONAL
27 REGULATIONS COMMISSION.

28 SEC. 22. Refusal to issue certificates for certain cause. — The
29 Board of [Dental Examiners] DENTISTRY shall refuse to issue a

1 certificate of registration to any person convicted by a court of competent
2 jurisdiction of any criminal offense involving moral turpitude OR OF ANY
3 CRIMINAL OFFENSE PUNISHABLE BY IMPRISONMENT OF AT
4 LEAST THREE (3) YEARS AND ONE DAY; [and] (B) TO ANY PERSON
5 GUILTY OF IMMORAL OR HISHONORABLE CONDUCT; [or] (C) to any
6 person of unsound mind[.]; or (D) TO those suffering from communicable
7 or contagious disease. In the event of such refusal, the Board shall give
8 the applicant a written statement setting forth the reason/s for its action,
9 which statement shall be incorporated in the records of the Board.

10 SEC. 23. Revocation and suspension of certificates. — The Board
11 shall also have the power to RECOMMEND [revoke] TO NULLIFY or
12 suspend the validity of the certificate of registration of a dentist for any of
13 the causes mentioned in the preceding section, or for (A) unprofessional
14 and unethical conduct[.]; (B) malpractice[.]; (C) incompetency, [or] serious
15 ignorance [or] negligence in the practice of dentistry[.]; (D) willful
16 destruction or mutilation of a natural tooth of a patient with a deliberate
17 purpose of substituting the same by an unnecessary or unessential
18 artificial tooth[,] (E) for making use of fraud, deceit or false statements to
19 obtain a certificate of registration; (F) for [habitual use of intoxicating
20 liquors or drugs,] ALCOHOLISM OR DRUG ADDICTION causing him to
21 become incompetent to practice dentistry; (G) for the employment of
22 persons who are not duly authorized to do the work which under this Act
23 can only be done by persons who have certificates of registration to
24 practice dentistry in the Philippines; (H) for the employment of deceit or
25 any form of fraud with the public in general or some clients in particular
26 for the purpose of extending his clientele; (I) for making false
27 advertisements, publishing or circulating fraudulent or deceitful
28 allegations regarding his professional attainment, skill or knowledge, or
29 the methods of treatment employed by him[:]; OR (J) UTTER

1 DISREGARD AND CONTINUED VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE
2 PROVISIONS OF THE REGULATORY CODE OF DENTAL PRACTICE
3 IN THE PHILIPPINES; Provided, however, That the action of the Board
4 in the exercise of this power shall be appealable [only] to the [President
5 of the Philippines whose decision in such cases shall be final]
6 PROFESSIONAL REGULATIONS COMMISSION.

7 SEC. 24. Reissue of revoked certificate and replacement of lost
8 one. — The Board may, after the expiration of five years from the date of
9 revocation of a certificate of registration, for reasons it may deem
10 sufficient, entertain any person whose certificate has been revoked, in the
11 same manner as application for an original certificate, and in so doing it
12 may in its discretion, exempt the applicant from the necessity of
13 undergoing another examination. A fee [of ten pesos shall] TO be
14 charged for the previously revoked. A new certificate of registration to
15 replace any certificate lost, destroyed or mutilated [may be] issued
16 [subject to] IN ACCORDANCE WITH the rules of the Board [and a charge
17 of five pesos] shall be [made] AS FIXED BY THE PROFESSIONAL
18 REGULATIONS COMMISSION.

19 ARTICLE V - The Council on Dental Education

20 SEC. 25. Functions. — The Council on Dental Education shall be
21 a policy-making body under the [Secretary of Education] CHAIRMAN OF
22 THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION, charged with the
23 responsibility of regulating and standardizing [dental] education in the
24 country. To be effective in carrying out its objectives, the Council shall
25 have the following functions: (a) to recommend the minimum
26 requirements of the pre-dental course; (b) to recommend the minimum
27 requirements of the regular dental course; (c) to determine and prescribe
28 the minimum requirements for the physical plants and other facilities of
29 schools or colleges of dentistry; (d) to [determine] RECOMMEND and

1 prescribe the minimum number and qualifications of the teaching
2 personnel, including student-teacher ratio; (e) to require internship or any
3 form of hospital training in a teaching hospital as a prerequisite to
4 graduation in a dental college [, provided that no such requirement shall
5 be made effective earlier than two years after the approval of this Act]; (f)
6 to inspect or visit schools or colleges in connection with the functions of
7 the Council as herein provided; (G) TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO
8 UPGRADE THE QUALITY OF THE DENTAL SCHOOLS WHICH DO
9 NOT UPDATE THEIR FACILITIES AND THOSE WITH DISMAL
10 FAILURES IN THE DENTAL BOARD LICENSURE EXAMINATION; and
11 [(g)] (G) to adopt and enforce such rules and regulations as are
12 necessary for the proper implementation of the objectives of the Council.

13 SEC. 26. Composition. — The Council on Dental Education shall
14 be composed of (A) the [Secretary of] CHAIRMAN OF THE
15 COMMISSION ON HIGHER Education (CHED) OR HIS
16 REPRESENTATIVE [, as chairman]; (B) the [Undersecretary of
17 Education, as vice-chairman; the Director of Public Schools, the]
18 chairman of the Board of [Dental Examiners,] DENTISTRY; (C) the
19 President of the Philippine Dental Association or [any other bona fide
20 national dental association,] HIS REPRESENTATIVE; (D) [a dean-
21 representative of private dental colleges, to be chosen by] the
22 PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF deans of [said private]
23 ASSOCIATION OF PHILIPPINE dental colleges OR HIS
24 REPRESENTATIVE[,]; and (E) the dean of the [College of Dentistry,]
25 University of the Philippines, COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY OR HIS
26 REPRESENTATIVE [as members]. [The chairman and members of the
27 Council shall serve as such only during their incumbency in their
28 respective positions.]

1 SEC. 27. Secretary of the Council. — The Council on Dental
2 Education may designate [the] AN administrative officer or any
3 subordinate official of the [Department of Education] CHED to serve as
4 secretary of the Council, [and as such he] WHO shall keep a complete
5 record of the proceedings, communications and deliberations of the
6 Council.

7 SEC. 28. Compensation. — The chairman, members, and
8 secretary of the Council on Dental Education shall [not] be entitled to [any
9 compensation] AN HONORARIUM AS DETERMINED BY THE
10 CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL [, except those authorized by their
11 respective offices and such other expenses as are necessary in the
12 performance of their official duties as herein provided]. THE SUM
13 NECESSARY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION SHALL
14 BE TAKEN FROM THE APPROPRIATIONS OF THE CHED.

15 SEC. 29. Sessions. — The Council shall hold its regular session
16 every month at such time and place to be designated by the chairman of
17 the Council. Special sessions may be called by the chairman or upon
18 [the] request or petition of a majority of the members of the Council.

19 SEC. 30. Authority. — The Council is hereby authorized by this Act
20 to determine, prescribe or modify the length of studies for the pre-dental
21 and the regular dental course, provided that the preparatory course shall
22 not be less than two years nor more than four years, and in the case of
23 the regular course, it shall not be less than four years nor more than six
24 years, AND IN THE CASE OF POSTGRADUATE COURSES, NOT LESS
25 THAN ONE YEAR BUT NOT MORE THAN FOUR YEARS; PROVIDED,
26 HOWEVER, THAT IN ALL ITS FUNCTIONS HEREIN PROVIDED THE
27 COUNCIL SHALL ACT AS A BODY, OR, UPON A VOTE OF THE
28 MAJORITY OF ITS MEMBERS.

1 ARTICLE VI - The Council for the Advancement of Dental

2 Research

3 SECTION 31. Functions. — The Council for the Advancement of
4 Dental Research shall be a policy-making body, charged with the
5 responsibility of promoting and developing dental research in the country.
6 In order to carry out its objectives, the Council shall have the following
7 functions; (a) To devise and work out a plan to establish a dental
8 RESEARCH center [, with] FOR the promotion of [dental research as] its
9 [principal] goal; (b) [To determine and recommend the raising of the
10 necessary funds to finance this research project, either through the
11 solicitation of funds from private sources or by direct government
12 appropriation or financing] TO ASK CONGRESS TO ALLOCATE
13 BUDGET FOR FUNDING THE CENTER AND ITS ADMINISTRATIVE
14 STAFF; [(c) To enlist the aid or corporation of such government or private
15 entities as may be necessary;] and [(d)] (C) To adopt and implement
16 [such measures,] rules and regulations [as] THAT are necessary for the
17 carrying out of the objectives of the Council.

18 SEC. 32. Composition. — The Council for the Advancement of
19 Dental Research shall be composed of (A) the [Chairman] SECRETARY
20 of the [National Science Development Board] DEPARTMENT OF
21 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DOST), as chairman; (B) a
22 representative of the Philippine Dental Association [or any other bona fide
23 national dental association, a representative of the National Science
24 Development Board,]; (C) a representative of the Board of [Dental
25 Examiners] DENTISTRY [, and a representative of the Council on Dental
26 Education,]; (D) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PHILIPPINE
27 ASSOCIATION OF DENTAL COLLEGES; (E) THE DEAN OF THE
28 COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY, UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES, as
29 members. [The Chairman and members of the Council shall be appointed

1 by the President of the Philippines with the consent of the Commission on
2 Appointments for a term of five years, unless sooner terminated by the
3 expiration of their tenure of office in their respective positions.]

4 SEC. 33. Secretary of the Council. — The Council for the
5 Advancement of Dental Research may designate any of its members to
6 serve as secretary of the Council, and as such he shall keep a complete
7 record of the proceedings, communications and deliberations of the
8 Council.

9 SEC. 34. Compensation. — The chairman, members and
10 secretary of the Council for the Advancement of Dental Research shall
11 [not] be entitled to [any compensation except those authorized by their
12 respective offices and such other expenses as are necessary in the
13 performance of their official duties as herein provided] AN
14 HONORARIUM AS DETERMINED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
15 COUNCIL. THE SUM NECESSARY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
16 THIS SECTION SHALL BE TAKEN FROM THE APPROPRIATIONS OF
17 THE DOST.

18 SEC. 35. Sessions. — *The Council shall hold its regular session*
19 *once every two months at such time and place to be designated by the*
20 *[c]Chairman of the Council. Special sessions may be called by the*
21 *chairman whenever necessary.*

22 ARTICLE VII - Penal and Miscellaneous Provisions

23 SEC. 36. Penal Provisions. — (A) Any person who shall practice
24 dentistry in the Philippines as defined in this Act, without a certificate of
25 registration issued in accordance with the provisions of this Act OR WITH
26 A REVOKED OR EXPIRED LICENSE, or has been declared exempt[,] or
27 (B) ANY OF THOSE TO WHOM THE DEFINITION OF THE PRACTICE
28 OF DENTISTRY DOES NOT APPLY, SUCH AS, ARTISANS OR
29 DENTAL TECHNICIANS ENGAGED IN THE MECHANICAL

1 CONSTRUCTION OF ARTIFICIAL DENTURES OR FIXTURES AND
2 OTHER ORAL DEVICES, OR STUDENTS OF DENTISTRY
3 UNDERGOING PRACTICAL TRAINING, IF THEY LIKEWISE VIOLATE
4 THE SAVING CLAUSE OF THE LAW, AND PERFORM ANY OF THE
5 ACTS CONSTITUTING THE PRACTICE OF DENTISTRY AS DEFINED
6 IN THIS LAW OUTSIDE OF THE CONFINES OF THE DENTAL
7 SCHOOL, COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY IN WHICH THEY ARE
8 UNDERGOING SUCH PRACTICAL TRAINING UNDER THE
9 DIRECTION OR SUPERVISION OF A MEMBER OF THE FACULTY
10 WHO IS DULY LICENSED TO PRACTICE DENTISTRY IN THE
11 PHILIPPINES, OR UNDERBOARD DENTAL GRANDUATES AS
12 SPECIFIED BY SECTION 14 OF THIS ACT IF THEY DO NOT WORK
13 UNDER THE DIRECT SUPERVISION OF A DULY LICENSED DENTIST
14 AS PROVIDED HEREIN; (C) any person presenting or using as his own
15 the certificate of registration of another[,] or (D) any person who shall give
16 any false or forged evidence to the Board in obtaining a certificate of
17 registration[,] or (E) any person who shall impersonate any registrant of
18 like or different name[,] or (F) [any person who shall use a revoked or
19 suspended certificate of registration, or] any person who shall assume,
20 use or advertise as a bachelor of dental surgery, doctor of dental surgery,
21 master of dental surgery, licentiate of dental surgery, doctor of dental
22 medicine, or dental surgeon, or append to his name the letters D.D.S.,
23 B.D.S., [M.D.S.] L.D.S., or D.M.D., without having been conferred such
24 title or degree in a legally constituted schools, college or university, duly
25 recognized and authorized to confer the same, or OTHER DEGREES;
26 OR (G) ANY PERSON WHO SHALL advertise any title or description
27 tending to convey the impression that he is a dentist, without holding a
28 valid certificate of registration from the Board[,] or (H) any person who
29 shall violate any provision of this Act, OR ANY RULE OR REGULATION

1 WITHIN THE AUTHORITY OF THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATIONS
2 COMMISSION shall be guilty of [misdemeanor] A FELONY and [shall,]
3 upon conviction, be sentenced to a fine of not less than [three] FIFTY
4 thousand pesos (P50,000.00) nor more than [five] TWO HUNDRED
5 thousand pesos (P200,000.00) or to suffer imprisonment for a period of
6 not less than [one] TEN yearS AND ONE DAY nor more than [five]
7 TWENTY (20) years, or both[, in the discretion of the court].

8 SEC. 37. Display of name and certificate of registration. — Every
9 registered practicing dentist shall display in a conspicuous place in the
10 [house] BUILDING or office where he practices, his name and surname
11 and he shall further display his certificate of registration in his office in
12 plain sight of patients [occupying] WHO ENTER [his] THE dental [chair]
13 OFFICE OR DENTAL CLINIC. IN THE CASE WHERE THE DENTIST
14 HAS MORE THAN ONE CLINIC, HE SHALL DISPLAY HIS ORIGINAL
15 CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION IN HIS MAIN OFFICE OR CLINIC,
16 AND SHALL DISPLAY A COPY OF HIS CERTIFIED ORIGINAL
17 CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION IN THE OTHER BRANCH OR
18 BRANCHES OF HIS PRACTICE. Any owner or proprietor of a dental
19 office or establishment is also under obligation to display in conspicuous
20 places in the office or establishment, [and to display] the certificates of
21 registration of each and everyone of such persons in the same manner
22 as hereinbefore provided.

23 SEC. 38. Foreign Reciprocity. — Except in the case of persons
24 otherwise exempt under the provisions of this Act, no dentist who is a
25 citizen of a foreign country or a particular state shall be granted any of the
26 rights or privileges under this Act, unless the country or state of which he
27 is a subject or a citizen permits dentists who are Filipino citizens to
28 practice within its territorial limits on the same basis as the subject or
29 citizens of such country or state, but under no circumstance shall such a

1 set-up be initiated by the Philippine government; PROVIDED,
2 HOWEVER, THAT SUCH FOREIGN DENTISTS SHALL BE LICENSED
3 BY THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATIONS COMMISSION.

4 SEC. 39. INTEGRATION OF THE REGULATORY CODE OF
5 DENTAL PRACTICE. – THE REGULATORY CODE OF DENTAL
6 PRACTICE IN THE PHILIPPINES, (BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 60,
7 SERIES OF 1983, OF THE BOARD OF DENTISTRY) ADOPTED ON
8 THE 29TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1983, AND APPROVED ON THE 7TH DAY
9 OF MARCH, 1984 IS HEREBY MADE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS
10 LAW.

11 SEC. [39] 40. Enforcement of the Act by officers of the law. — It
12 shall be the duty of all [duly constituted] officers of the law of the national,
13 provincial, city, [or] municipal OR BARANGAY LEVEL OF THE
14 government[s], to enforce the provisions of this Act and to prosecute any
15 person violating the same. The Secretary of Justice shall act as the legal
16 adviser of the Board of [Dental Examiners] DENTISTRY, the Council on
17 Dental Education, and the Council for the Advancement of Dental
18 Research and shall render such legal assistance as may be necessary in
19 carrying out the provisions of this Act.

20 SEC. [40] 41. Repeal of Laws in conflict with this Act. — All laws,
21 or portions thereof, orders, ordinances, or rules and regulations in conflict
22 with the provisions of this Act, as pertain to the practice of dentistry shall
23 be, and are hereby repealed.

24 SEC. [41] 42. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect upon its
25 approval.”

26 SEC. 4. Separability Clause. If, for any reason, any section or provision
27 of this Act is declared to be unlawful or unconstitutional, the other provisions of
28 this Act shall remain valid.

1 SEC. 5. Repealability Clause. - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules
2 and regulations, or parts hereof inconsistent with the provision of this Act are
3 hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

4 SEC. 6 This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
5 the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation
6 whichever comes earlier.

7 Approved,