

Advocacy Update

(February 2018)

SB 1377:

The bill to authorize and license a dental therapist passed out of the Senate 22-8 and has been transmitted to the House of Representatives where we begin the process all over again! While in the Senate, there have been a few amendments! In the final version passed by the Senate, the changes to the bill include:

- Limits the number of collaborative agreements that a private practice dentist can enter into with dental therapists to five
- Adds a dental hygiene license to the requirements necessary to obtain a dental therapy license
- Increases the required number of clinical practice hours under direct supervision prior to entering into a collaborative practice agreement from 400 to 1,000 hours.
- Requires dental therapy education programs to emphasize treatment methods that reduce the need for analgesics
- Requires dental practices to disclose whether the patient is scheduled to see the dentist or dental therapist

SB1445:

The bill to provide dental benefits to adult pregnant women on AHCCCS passed out of committee and is scheduled to be heard in Rules (to review for constitutionality and proper form) on Thursday, February 22, 2018. Then to the full Senate for 3rd read. It is expected to pass out of the Senate and transmitted to the House.