

HD1814/SD1594

SPONSORED BY
REP. KAY KHAN AND
SENATOR MICHAEL MOORE

AN ACT RELATIVE TO DENTAL HYGIENISTS

ABOUT THE BILL

This legislation would enable dental hygienists who have **obtained a special permit** and **undergone necessary training** to **administer nitrous oxide** to patients while under the direct supervision of a dentist.

Did you know?

For **more than 40 years**, dental hygienists have safely administered nitrous oxide to patients under the supervision of dentists **in 35 states** that have passed similar legislation.

It is time for us to remove this artificial barrier which is decreasing access to care for patients in the Commonwealth who require nitrous oxide for their treatment.

Allowing dental hygienists to administer nitrous oxide ensures equitable access to care by:

- Granting greater and easier access to a proven and advantageous method for reducing anxiety associated with dental procedures.
- Improving efficiency for busy dentists who can devote more attention to patients by increasing the number of nitrous oxide administrators.
- Encouraging professional development that allows dental hygienists greater ease to practice their skills.

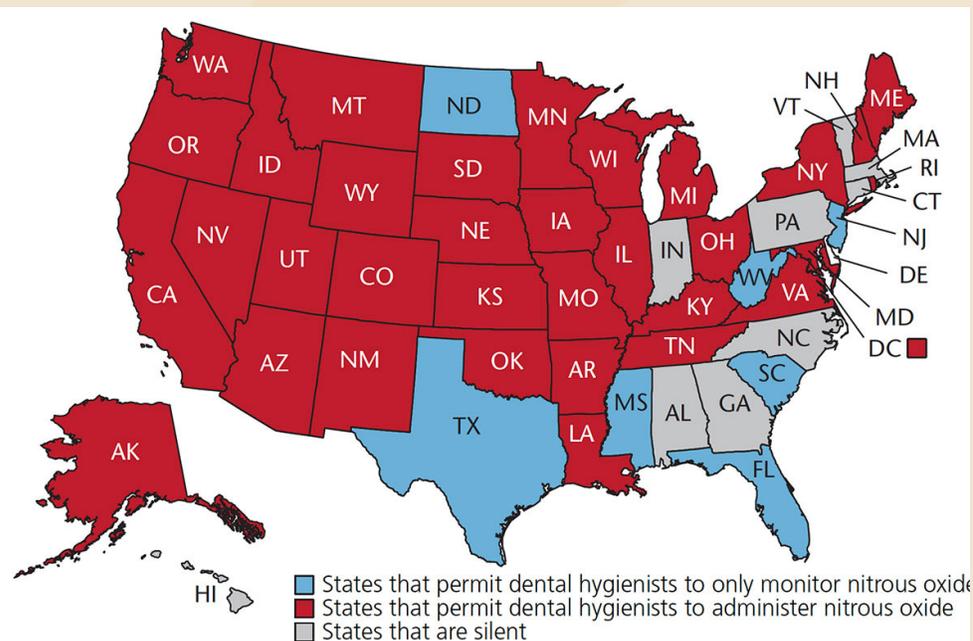


FIGURE 2. Nitrous oxide administration by dental hygienists. **
** Source: American Dental Hygienists' Association, adha.org

If you have any questions about this legislation, please contact:
Amanda Berthiaume at
president@massdha.org
or Kate Worrall at
kworrall@charlesgroupconsulting.com