**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 40‑15‑183 SO AS TO PROVIDE THE STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY MAY RANDOMLY CONDUCT ANNOUNCED INSPECTIONS OF DENTAL OFFICES AFTER GIVING APPROPRIATE NOTICE, AND MAY CONDUCT UNANNOUNCED INSPECTIONS OF DENTAL OFFICES WHEN INVESTIGATING A BONA FIDE COMPLAINT AGAINST A PERSON LICENSED BY THE BOARD, AND SHALL SET POLICY AND ESTABLISH PROCEDURES CONCERNING THE CONDUCT OF THESE INSPECTIONS.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Chapter 15, Title 40 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 40‑15‑183. (A) The board may randomly conduct announced inspections of the dental office of a licensee, but only after the board provides notice of the intended inspection at least forty‑eight hours before the investigation begins. This notice may be provided by verbal or written means, and may be provided by means of telephone, electronic mail, or other means of telecommunications considered appropriate by the board.

(B) The board may conduct random and unannounced inspections of the dental office of a licensee who is the subject of a bona fide complaint being investigated by the board pursuant to Section 40‑15‑180. The board may inspect the premises of any person licensed or registered by the board to insure compliance with this section.

(C) The board shall set general policy and establish procedures concerning how inspections under this section must be conducted.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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