



**Background**

Interim therapeutic restorations are a type of temporary dental restoration to stabilize a tooth until a dentist can assess the need for further treatment. According to the American Academy of Pediatric Dentists, interim therapeutic restorations may be beneficial in circumstances where traditional dental services for cavities are not available or when dealing with young patients, uncooperative patients, or patients with special health care needs.

**State Revenue**

The bill increases cash fund revenue to DORA by about **\$46,000 in FY 2015-16 and \$3,000 in FY 2016-17**. This revenue from fees is deposited to the Division of Professions and Occupations Cash Fund to offset the costs of the bill in DORA. The fiscal note estimates that about 10 dental hygienists will be permitted under the bill to perform interim therapeutic restorations. Given this low number, it is assumed that, in addition to the permit fee, DORA will raise the license fees on all dental hygienists. Dental hygienist licenses are renewed every two years.

**Fee Impact on Individuals or Business.** Section 2-2-322, C.R.S., requires legislative service agency review of measures which create or increase any fee collected by a state agency. While the exact fee schedule will be set by DORA in rule, Table 1 below shows the potential fee impact of the bill on dental hygienists.

<b>Table 1. Fee Impact on Individuals or Business</b>					
<b>Type of Fee</b>	<b>Current Fee</b>	<b>Proposed Fee</b>	<b>Fee Change</b>	<b>Number Affected</b>	<b>Total Fee Impact</b>
<b>FY 2015-16</b>					
Dental Hygienist License (New)	\$150	\$160	\$10	250	\$2,500
Dental Hygienist License (Renewal)	\$86	\$96	\$10	4,300	\$43,000
Interim Therapeutic Restoration Permit	\$0	\$50	\$50	10	\$500
<b>FY 2015-16 TOTAL</b>					<b>\$46,000</b>
<b>FY 2016-17</b>					
Dental Hygienist License (New)	\$150	\$160	\$10	250	\$2,500
Interim Therapeutic Restoration Permit	\$0	\$50	\$50	10	\$500
<b>FY 2016-17 TOTAL</b>					<b>\$3,000</b>
<b>TWO-YEAR TOTAL</b>					<b>\$49,000</b>

**TABOR Impact**

This bill increases state revenue from fees, which will increase the amount required to be refunded under TABOR. TABOR refunds are paid from the General Fund.

**State Expenditures**

The bill increases costs in DORA by **\$44,240 in FY 2015-16 and \$2,475 in FY 2016-17** and future years. In addition, the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing may have increased costs for additional provider reimbursements under Medicaid and the Children's Basic Health Plan (CHP+). These costs are summarized in Table 2 and discussed below.

<b>Cost Components</b>	<b>FY 2015-16</b>	<b>FY 2016-17</b>
Personal Services	\$6,014	\$0
Committee Per Diem and Expenses	6,300	0
Legal Services	7,426	2,475
Expert Consultant	24,500	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$44,240</b>	<b>\$2,475</b>

**Department of Regulatory Agencies.** To implement the permitting of dental hygienists to perform interim therapeutic restorations, the DORA will have costs to hire an expert consultant to develop standards for this procedure (\$24,500). There will also be costs to reimburse advisory committee members for per diem and travel expenses (\$6,300). DORA will also require 260 hours of temporary staff to assist the committee and conduct the initial permitting process (\$6,014). It is anticipated that DORA will require an additional 75 hours of legal services in the first year (\$7,426) and 25 hours in future years (\$2,475) for rulemaking.

**Department of Health Care Policy and Financing.** The bill will likely increase costs for provider reimbursement under Medicaid and CHP+. While interim therapeutic restorations may limit the costs of future dental work in some cases (i.e., prevent a tooth from getting worse and requiring a more complicated procedure), reimbursement for this procedure is expected to increase costs overall for several reasons. First, in some cases, the cost of the permanent restoration will be the same as if no interim restoration was done, even after Medicaid and CHP+ has paid for an extra procedure. Second, the bill requires that a dentist supervise cases where it is appropriate for a dental hygienist to perform an interim therapeutic restoration and allows reimbursement for telehealth consultations. Reimbursement for consultation and telehealth will be higher than if a standard restoration or no restoration was performed. At this time, an exact estimate of costs is not available. The fiscal note will be revised if additional information is provided. Medicaid costs are paid using General Fund and federal funds; CHP+ costs are paid using cash funds and federal funds.

**Effective Date**

The bill takes effect August 5, 2015, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 6, 2015, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

**State Appropriations**

For FY 2015-16, the bill requires an appropriation of \$44,240 to DORA from the Division of Professions and Occupations Cash Fund. Of this amount, \$7,426 is reappropriated to the Department of Law.

**State and Local Government Contacts**

Regulatory Agencies  
Personnel and Administration  
Public Health and Environment  
Corrections

Health Care Policy and Financing  
Human Services  
Law  
Counties