

**Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure
2025-2026 (194th) Bill Summary**

BILL NUMBER: H455

TITLE: An Act relative to the dental licensure compact in Massachusetts

SPONSOR(S): Philips, Edward

HEARING DATE: September 8, 2025

REPORTING DEADLINE: November 7, 2025

CURRENT LAW

Sections 43 through 50, inclusive, of Chapter 112 of the Massachusetts General Laws govern the licensure, regulation, and scope of practice of dentists operating in Massachusetts, under the Board of Registration in Dentistry. Section 51 of said chapter regulates dental hygienists.

SUMMARY

This legislation seeks to add Massachusetts as a member state of the Interstate Dental and Dental Hygiene Licensure Compact and Commission (“DDH Compact”) through the adoption of model legislation.

As a member state, dentists and dental hygienists licensed in Massachusetts would be eligible for a “Compact License” that would allow them to practice in other member states, as well as allowing Compact License holders from other states to practice in Massachusetts. Compact licenses are equivalent to a dental license or dental hygienist license, whichever applies.

The DDH Compact also seeks to establish a clearinghouse of data, through which all member states would be required to submit documents relating to licensure. This would include any adverse action taken against licensees, including any non-public complaints, to be shared among member states.