

LFC Requester:	
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AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2026 REGULAR SESSION

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO
[AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov](https://www.nmlegis.gov/AgencyAnalysis) and email to billanalysis@dfa.nm.gov
(Analysis must be uploaded as a PDF)

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}

Date Prepared: 1/9/26 **Bill Number:** HB44 **Original** ☒ **Amendment** ☐ **Substitute** ☐

Short Title: DENTIST AND DENTAL HYGIENIST COMPACT

Sponsor: Rep. Armstrong

Name and Code Number: HCA 630

Person Writing: Keenan Ryan

Phone: 505.396.0223 **Email:** keenan.ryan@hca.nm.gov

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27		
\$0.0	\$0.0	NA	NA

(Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27	FY28		
\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	NA	NA

(Parenthesis () indicate revenue decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY26	FY27	FY28	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	NA	No Impact

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis: HB44 or The Dentist and Dental Hygienist Interstate Compact facilitates the interstate practice of dentistry and dental hygiene and improve public access to dentistry and dental hygiene services by providing dentists and dental hygienists licensed in a participating state the ability to practice in participating states in which they are not licensed. The compact does this by establishing a pathway for a dentist and dental hygienists licensed in a participating state to obtain a compact privilege that authorizes them to practice in another participating state in which they are not licensed. The compact enables participating states to protect the public health and safety with respect to the practice of such dentists and dental hygienists through the state's authority to regulate the practice of dentistry and dental hygiene in the state. HB44 also amends the Dental Health Care Act to provide for state and federal criminal history background checks for applicants, as a condition of eligibility for initial licensure and privilege to practice under the compact.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal impact to the Health Care Authority (HCA).

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Dental hygiene scopes of work can vary greatly from state to state. The bill does not signal how to address this issue if the provider has a license from a state with a narrower scope of work than New Mexico.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

This compact may streamline the process for out-of-state provider enrollment. It would allow dentists and dental hygienists to provide service across state lines with a home state license. This could increase access to healthcare across state lines. Providers from compact member states would be required to enroll as a NM Medicaid provider and follow all applicable provider requirements in order to be reimbursed.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None for HCA.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

None

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None for HCA.

ALTERNATIVES

None

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status quo

AMENDMENTS

None