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## DIGEST

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Patrick Williams

HB No. 234

**Abstract:** Requires that owner identification information be marked on every removable dental prosthesis fabricated by a dentist or pursuant to a dentist's order.

Proposed law requires that every complete upper and lower denture and removable dental prosthesis fabricated by a dentist duly licensed under present law, or fabricated pursuant to a dentist's work order or under the dentist's direction or supervision, be marked with owner identification information.

Proposed law defines "dental prostheses" as dentures, bridges, artificial restorations, or other structures to be used or worn as substitutes for natural teeth, or appliances for the correction of disease, loss, deformity, malposition, dislocation, fracture of or injury to the jaws, teeth, lips, gums, cheeks, palate, or associated tissues or parts.

Proposed law provides that the required identification information shall include the name and social security number of the patient for whom the prosthesis is intended.

Proposed law provides that if the dentist or dental laboratory determines the marking of identification as provided in proposed law is not practical, identifying information shall be marked in either of the following forms:

- (1) The social security number of the patient may be omitted from the marking if the name of the patient is shown.
- (2) The marking may show the initials of the patient exclusively if use of the name of the patient is impracticable.

Proposed law provides an exception to the owner identification inscription requirement for cases in which, in the professional judgment of the dentist, none of the forms of identification are practicable or clinically safe.

Proposed law provides that the La. State Board of Dentistry may establish any penalty or sanction it deems appropriate for failure of a dentist to comply with proposed law.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 37:772.1 and R.S. 40:1299.133-1299.135)

