

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 979 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY BRADFORD, KORTZ, MANN, PALLONE, SIPTROTH AND  
YOUNGBLOOD, MARCH 18, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, MARCH 18,  
2009

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of May 1, 1933 (P.L.216, No.76), entitled "An  
2 act relating to dentistry; defining and providing for the  
3 licensing and registration of dentists and dental hygienists,  
4 and for the revocation and suspension of such licenses and  
5 registrations, subject to appeal, and for their  
6 reinstatement; defining the powers and duties of the State  
7 Dental Council and Examining Board and the Department of  
8 Public Instruction; providing penalties; and repealing  
9 existing laws," providing for a patient education brochure  
10 concerning mercury amalgam.

11 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
12 hereby enacts as follows:

13 Section 1. The act of May 1, 1933 (P.L.216, No.76), known as  
14 The Dental Law, is amended by adding a section to read:

15 Section 11.10. Patient Information Brochures.--(a) The  
16 Department of Health, in consultation with the Department of  
17 Environmental Protection, shall create a patient education  
18 brochure concerning all of the following:

19 (1) Mercury in amalgam fillings.

20 (2) Health and environmental concerns with using amalgam  
21 fillings.

1     (3) Cavities and tooth decay and what a patient can do to  
2 avoid fillings.

3     (4) Talking with your dentist about getting a tooth filled.

4     (5) Choices a patient has for filling materials.

5     (b) Upon completion and distribution of the brochure created  
6 under subsection (a), all dental offices within this  
7 Commonwealth shall notify and make available the brochure.

8     (c) A form shall be signed by the patient indicating that  
9 the patient education brochure was made available to the  
10 patient. The form shall be similar to a sample form designed by  
11 the Department of Health.

12     Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.