

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

No. 45 of 1981

DENTISTS REGISTRATION (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1981

The Dentists Registration (Amendment) Ordinance 1981 amends the Dentists Registration Ordinance 1931 to introduce new qualification requirements for the registration of dentists and to make miscellaneous other amendments to update the legislation.

Under the new qualification provisions a person is entitled to be registered as a dentist -

- . if he holds one of the qualifications from Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom or Ireland listed in the schedule to the Ordinance of approved qualifications,
- . if he holds an unscheduled qualification which the Minister for Health, on the recommendation of the Board, has declared by notice in the Gazette to be an acceptable qualification - qualifications may be recommended by the Board if they are at least equivalent to the degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery of the University of Sydney, or
- . if he passes the examinations conducted by or on behalf of the Board and, if required by the Board, trains or gains experience in the practice of dentistry in Australia for a period of not more than 12 months.

The opportunity has been taken to make other amendments to the Ordinance, some of which are of a minor or technical nature.

The provisions in relation to the details to be included in Registers are transferred from the Dental Regulations to the Ordinance in accordance with current practice. The sections providing for the payment of annual fees are repealed and replaced by new sections.

The section on disciplinary action is amended to, amongst other things, remove references to "indictable offence" and "certified insane" both of which are subject to technical difficulties. The first expression is replaced by a reference to "an offence punishable by imprisonment for a period of one year or longer". The reference to "certified insane" is now obsolete and a new section is introduced into the Ordinance providing for suspension of registration on health grounds. The Board is now also able to cancel the registration of a person whose registration in a State or another Territory is cancelled, suspended or otherwise withdrawn on a ground other than the non-payment of a fee.

New provisions have been introduced dealing with applications for re-registration and the administration of estates of deceased dentists.

Ord. No. 3/80