

Bill as  
Introduced

HB 205 - AS INTRODUCED

2013 SESSION

13-0010  
10/01

HOUSE BILL

**205**

AN ACT relative to the identification of dental prosthetic and orthodontic appliances.

SPONSORS: Rep. D. Hooper, Straf 16; Rep. Grassie, Straf 11; Rep. Copeland, Rock 19;  
Rep. Pantelakos, Rock 25; Rep. Ferrante, Rock 6; Rep. Lockwood, Merr 9;  
Rep. Porter, Hills 1; Rep. Frazer, Merr 13; Rep. J. MacKay, Merr 14

COMMITTEE: Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs

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ANALYSIS

This bill establishes the requirement for dentures, dental prostheses, and orthodontic appliances fabricated pursuant to a dentist's orders to have markings identifying the patient.

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Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.  
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struckthrough~~].  
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Thirteen*

AN ACT relative to the identification of dental prosthetic and orthodontic appliances.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

1 1 New Subdivision; Identification of Dental Prosthetic and Orthodontic Appliances. Amend  
2 RSA 317-A by inserting after section 38 the following new subdivision:

3 Identification of Dental Prosthetic and Orthodontic Appliances

4 317-A:39 Identification of Dental Prosthetic and Orthodontic Appliances.

5 I.(a) Every complete upper and lower denture, removable partial dental prosthesis, and  
6 removable acrylic orthodontic appliance fabricated by a dentist licensed in this state or fabricated  
7 pursuant to the dentist's work order or under the dentist's direction or supervision shall be marked  
8 with the name of the patient for whom the denture is intended. The markings shall be done during  
9 the fabrication and shall be permanent, legible, and cosmetically acceptable. The dentist or the  
10 dental laboratory fabricating the upper and lower denture, removable partial dental prosthesis, or  
11 removable acrylic orthodontic appliance shall determine the exact location of the markings and the  
12 methods used to apply or implant them.

13 (b)(1) If in the professional judgment of the dentist or the dental laboratory this  
14 identification is not practical because the name cannot be placed in an obscure area, identification  
15 may be shown with the initials of the patient.

16 (2) If in the professional judgment of the dentist or the dental laboratory during  
17 manufacture or repair of the denture it is determined that the forms of identification identified in  
18 subparagraph (a) are not safe for the patient, the identification requirement shall be waived.

19 (3) Full or removable dentures that are relined are not subject to the identification  
20 requirement established by subparagraph (a).

21 II. Any removable upper and lower denture, removable partial dental prosthesis, or  
22 removable acrylic orthodontic appliance in existence before the effective date of this section that was  
23 not marked in accordance with paragraph I at the time of its fabrication shall be marked at the time  
24 of any subsequent rebasing. In this paragraph, "rebasings" means the complete replacement of all the  
25 pink tissue portion of a removable full or partial denture.

26 III. If the patient or legal guardian for the patient shall for reason of privacy or personal  
27 wishes refuse to have any upper and lower denture, removable partial dental prosthesis, or  
28 removable acrylic orthodontic appliance covered under this subdivision to be labeled, a signed and  
29 dated copy of a release to the effect shall accompany the denture to the laboratory fabricating the  
30 denture. The original signed and dated release shall be kept in the patient's dental record.

31 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

# Amendments



Amendment to HB 205

*not adopted*

1 Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

2

3 AN ACT relative to the requirement for dentures and dental prostheses fabricated  
4 pursuant to a dentist's orders to have markings identifying the patient.  
5

6 Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

7

8 1 New Subdivision; Identification of Dental Prosthetics. Amend RSA 317-A by inserting after  
9 section 38 the following new subdivision:

10

Identification of Dental Prosthetics

11

317-A:39 Identification of Dental Prosthetics.

12

13 I.(a) Every complete upper and lower denture and removable partial dental prosthesis  
14 fabricated by a dentist licensed in this state or fabricated pursuant to the dentist's work order or  
15 under the dentist's direction or supervision shall be marked with the name of the patient for whom  
16 the denture is intended. The markings shall be done during the fabrication and shall be permanent,  
17 legible, and cosmetically acceptable. The dentist or the dental laboratory fabricating the upper and  
18 lower denture or removable partial dental prosthesis shall determine the exact location of the  
19 markings and the methods used to apply or implant them.

20

21 (b)(1) If in the professional judgment of the dentist or the dental laboratory this  
22 identification is not practical because the name cannot be placed in an obscure area, identification  
23 may be shown with the initials of the patient.

24

25 (2) If in the professional judgment of the dentist or the dental laboratory during  
26 manufacture or repair of the denture it is determined that the forms of identification identified in  
27 subparagraph (a) are not safe for the patient, the identification requirement shall be waived.

28

29 (3) Full or removable dentures that are relined are not subject to the identification  
30 requirement established by subparagraph (a).

31

32 II. Any removable upper and lower denture or removable partial dental prosthesis in  
existence before the effective date of this section that was not marked in accordance with paragraph  
I at the time of its fabrication shall be marked at the time of any subsequent rebasing. In this  
paragraph, "rebasing" means the complete replacement of all the pink tissue portion of a removable  
full or partial denture.

III. If the patient or legal guardian for the patient shall for reason of privacy or personal

Amendment to HB 205

- Page 2 -



- 1 wishes refuse to have any upper and lower denture or removable partial dental prosthesis covered
- 2 under this subdivision to be labeled, a signed and dated copy of a release to the effect shall
- 3 accompany the denture to the laboratory fabricating the denture. The original signed and dated
- 4 release shall be kept in the patient's dental record.



2013-0034h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes the requirement for dentures and dental prostheses fabricated pursuant to a dentist's orders to have markings identifying the patient.

# Speakers





# Hearing Minutes

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS**

**PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 205**

**BILL TITLE:** relative to the identification of dental prosthetic and orthodontic appliances.

**DATE:** January 22, 2013

**LOB ROOM:** 205      **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 11:15 a.m.

**Time Adjourned:** ?

(please circle if present)

**Committee Members:** Reps. J. MacKay, Harding, Donovan, French, N. Tilton, Sherman, Andrews-Ahern, Helmstetter, Ticehurst, Jane Hunt, DiMartino, McMahon, B. Nelson, S. Schmidt, Emerson, Meaney, LeBrun, Culbert, Martel and Kotowski.

**Bill Sponsors:** Rep. D. Hooper, Straf 16; Rep. Grassie, Straf 11; Rep. Copeland, Rock 19; Rep. Pantelakos, Rock 25; Rep. Ferrante, Rock 6; Rep. Lockwood, Merr 9; Rep. Porter, Hills 1; Rep. Frazer, Merr 13; Rep. J. MacKay, Merr 14

**TESTIMONY**

\* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

**Rep. Dorothy Hooper -**

This bill allows patient to have their dental prosthetic labeling. It will help aging patient.

**Rep. Donald LeBrun -** Asked questions about release.

**Rep. Richard Meaney -** Asked questions about teenagers. Family asking for the labeling on orthodontic appliance (retainers).

**Rep. Tim Copeland -** NYPD - Retired. Feels this will help with homicide cases - by having this labeling. Allow police to identify who the victim is.

**James Williamson, Executive Director of New Hampshire Dental Society.** Agrees with this. Feels it should be the patient's choice. Wants amendment and wants it to be on Dental prosthetic. Orthodontic will be too hard to label. They will support bill if amended.

**Richard Scherf -** Dentist from Dover. Supports bill. Gives examples of nursing homes. Patient loses, misplaces them and having to replace them.

**Rep. LeBrun -** Question on line 28 and 29. Answer - Proof that patient didn't want label.

**Rep. Meaney -** Question asked about color of retainer without identify marks. Do you know of many teenagers who loose them?

**HB 205 Page Two**

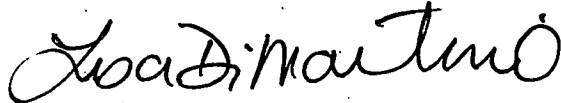
**Rep. McMahon - Do you support the amendments? Answer - Yes**

**They did not look into if insurance would cover.**

**Tim Copeland - Spoke on if a patient opts out they do not know that they may.**

**Subcommittee: Rep. Thomas Sherman, Chair, Rep. Richard Meaney and Rep. Laurie Harding.**

**Respectfully Submitted:**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa DiMartino". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name of the signatory.

**Rep. Lisa DiMartino, Clerk**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 205

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**Bill Sponsors:** Rep. D. Hooper, Straf 16; Rep. Grassie, Straf 11; Rep. Copeland, Rock 19; Rep. Pantelakos, Rock 25; Rep. Ferrante, Rock 6; Rep. Lockwood, Merr 9; Rep. Porter, Hills 1; Rep. Frazer, Merr 13; Rep. J. MacKay, Merr 14

TESTIMONY

\* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

Dorothy Hooper - State Rep - Dover -

this bill allow Pt. to have ~~their~~ their dental prosthetic ~~to~~ labeling will help Aging Pt

Rep Lebrun ask question about release -

Rep Meaney ask question about teenagers - family asking for the labeling on orthodontic appliance (retainers)

Rep Tom Copeland - NYPD - retired - feels this will help with homicide cases - by having this labeling - Allow police to identify who ~~is~~ victim is -

Rep. James Williamson Exec. Director of Dental South  
Agrees with this - feels it should be the Pt choice - wants amendment & wants it to be on dental prosthetic - Orthodontic will be too hard to label - They will support bill if Amended -

Richard R Schief - supports bill - (Dentist).  
Gives examples of Nursing homes -  
PTs loses, misplaces them - having to  
replace them.

Rep - Le Brun - question on line 28 & 29 -  
Answer prog that PT didn't want label -

Rep Maruy - question asked - About color  
of retainers without identify marks -  
Do you know of many teenagers who lose  
them.

Rep McMahon - do you support the  
Amendments - Answer is yes

~~not~~ They did not look into ~~it~~ if  
Insurance will ~~it~~ cover -

Tom Copland - spoke on if a  
PT opts out they do not know  
that they may

Sherman } subcom.  
Maruy }  
Harding }

# Sub-Committee Actions

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE WORK SESSION ON HB 205

**BILL TITLE:** relative to the identification of dental prosthetic and orthodontic appliances.

**DATE:** January 29, 2013

**Subcommittee Members:** Reps. Sherman, Chair, Meaney, Harding

**Comments and Recommendations:** Decision regarding ITL resulted from discussion \_\_\_\_\_ on concerns of legislation regarding professional best practices, legislating technology and privacy issues. Will write a letter to Dental Society encouraging this as best practice from the committee.

**Amendments:**

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

**Motions:** OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Retained (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. Richard Meaney

Seconded by Rep. Laurie Harding

Vote: 3-0

**Motions:** OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Retained (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote:

Respectfully submitted,

Rep.  
Subcommittee Chairman/Clerk



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE WORK SESSION ON HB 205

**BILL TITLE:** relative to the identification of dental prosthetic and orthodontic appliances.

**DATE:** 1/29/13

**Subcommittee Members:** Reps. Sherman, Meaney, Harding  
(Chair)

**Comments and Recommendations:** Decision regarding I TL resulted from discussion based on concerns of legislation regarding professional best practices, legislating technology and privacy issues. Will write a letter to Dental Society endorsing this as best practice from the committee

**Amendments:**

Sponsor: Rep.

OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep.

OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep.

OLS Document #:

**Motions:** OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Retained (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. Meaney

Seconded by Rep. Harding

Vote: 3-0

**Motions:** OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Retained (Please circle one.)

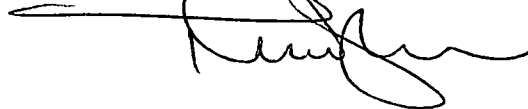
Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote:

Respectfully submitted,

Rep.  
Subcommittee Chairman/Clerk



# Testimony

Representative Dorothea Hooper, Strafford District 16, Dover

Good morning Mr. Chair and honorable members of this committee. Thank you for hearing this bill which would give patients the opportunity to mark their dentures for identification purposes.

The labeling of dentures is done in nations around the world. Sweden, the United Kingdom, India and Australia are but a few. <sup>QUICK</sup> Twenty one states in the United States have passed legislation making such labeling mandatory.

This bill would allow patients to opt for labeling dentures ~~and orthodontic appliances~~ but also contains an opt out clause for those patients concerned with privacy issues.

The Pennsylvania Dental Association supports a requirement that patient names or initials be placed on all dentures ~~and most orthodontic appliances~~ manufactured by a dentist's request. The association felt this requirement would help patients by:

1) Assisting forensic teams in human identification, particularly in the quick and efficient identification of victims of mass disaster. Actually it was the disaster of 9/11 that prompted my former dentist, Dr. Richard Scherf, to propose this bill for New Hampshire. Dr. Scherf left his practice for a short time in 2001 and traveled to New York City to identify bodies at the Twin Towers disaster. He is currently Director of the New Hampshire Dental Identification Team sponsored by the New Hampshire Dental Society.

This bill would require dentists to inform their patients that they can have their dentures ~~or orthodontic appliances~~ labeled for quick identification.

This bill mirrors one passed by the Pennsylvania legislature to help patients by:

1) Assisting forensic teams in human identification particularly victims of mass disasters.

2) Aiding health-care professionals in identifying misplaced dentures in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities

- 3) Helping law enforcement identify missing children
- 4) Ensuring continuity of quality dental care for the elderly population
- 5) Assisting victims families in bringing closure to tragic events.
- 6) In case of a loss of memory or unconsciousness the family can easily be notified of the issue
- ~~7) In case of the misplacement of an orthodontic retainer by a young patient, particularly at school, the appliance can be easily returned and will not incur the expense of another retainer.~~

This bill contains an "opt out" provision. Any patient may elect not to have their name placed on their ~~appliance~~<sup>signature</sup> if they have a privacy issue. The dentist merely informs the patient that he or she has that option.

The cost of labeling is truly incidental to the cost of the denture. While one denture is as much as two thousand dollars, the label is usually no more than \$25. In many cases it is provided by the lab free.

Dr. Scherf and I both feel this bill is a common sense approach to solving many of the problems of patients, our aging population, <sup>and</sup> law enforcement, ~~and athletes we do recognize the fact that~~ The New Hampshire Dental Association, ~~while does supporting labeling dentures, does not support the inclusion of Orthodontic alliances.~~ Their position is that there would be too much paper work involved, in keeping opt out records, ~~for the doctors to handle.~~ If this committee agrees with that position, I am prepared to submit an amendment to this bill that the dental association has indicated it supports. We do think, however, ~~that the total bill has merit.~~

In addition to my words, you will be hearing from Representative June Frazer who has participated in the labeling process and Dr. Richard Scherf, retired Dentist from Dover. Dr. Scherf has flown in from Florida to testify today.

Thank you for your time and attention.

*Rep. Tom Copeland  
a retired  
Detective*

House Bill 205

Good Morning: my name is James Williamson and I am the Executive Director of the New Hampshire Dental Society, the professional association of dentists in NH with over 84% of licensed dentists as our members. Thank you to you, Mr. Chairman and the members of the committee for allowing the Dental Society to testify today on this Bill.

The Dental Society agrees with the premise of House Bill 205 as American Dental Association policy recommends that its state affiliates, like the NH Dental Society, support the use of uniform methods of marking dental prostheses for forensic identification purposes. It is our experience that many dentists already do this as a courtesy to their patients and as the norm in their practices and many dental labs do the same. We have also been told by some member dentists that some patients insist that they do not want identification in their full or partial dentures. The key here is that it must remain the patient's choice.

This bill was also introduced last year and the Dental Society opposed it because it was too overreaching and did not allow a patient to opt of the placement of identification in their removable appliances. We commend the sponsor of this bill for revising the bill this year and introducing a much more palatable bill, which does leave to the patient the option of opting out of this labeling. This year, while we still do not think this bill is necessary, we will support it if an amendment is made. This amendment will strike any reference to Orthodontic appliances in the bill and will just be limited to complete upper and lower dentures and removable partial denture prostheses. This is where this practice will benefit forensic identification and will help nursing home staff prevent the loss of unmarked dentures. On the other hand, orthodontic appliances are placed every day on almost all orthodontic patients. The difficulty of marking these appliances, the added costs, and the overly burdensome recordkeeping necessary makes the application of this bill to Orthodontics impossible. So we would propose an amendment to HB 205 that would strike any reference to orthodontic appliances. With this amendment, the Dental Society, while we would still argue that this bill is not necessary, would support this bill as amended. If this amendment is not accepted then we would have to oppose this bill.

Thank you again for this opportunity to come before you today. I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

My name is Richard Scherf. I am a dentist living in Dover. I direct the New Hampshire Dental Identification team, a group of dentists and auxiliary persons who perform dental examinations and determine victim identifications for the Chief Medical Examiner in Concord.

I am advocating passage of the bill for several reasons:

1. A labeled denture can be useful as an aid in identification of disaster victims, that is, the label can quickly narrow the investigation to a certain individual and then lead to a positive identification.
2. In the case of an accident of any kind, a labeled denture can quickly lead to the individual's identification.
3. In the case of a loss of memory or unconsciousness, such as might be in a found individual who may have Alzheimer's or who has suffered a head injury, family can easily be notified of the discovery of the individual.
4. In the case of a denture misplaced in a hospital, nursing facility or assisted living community when a denture may be removed by the individual and misplaced, or by facility staff personnel. It can then quickly be returned to the resident. I believe that any dentist in this room can attest today that he or she has provided new dentures to individuals who have lost their unlabeled dentures in nursing or assisted living facilities.
5. In the case of the misplacement of an orthodontic retainer by a young patient, primarily at school. The appliance can easily be returned to the person, and the family will not incur the cost of a new retainer.
6. This bill contains an "opt out" provision. Any denture or retainer patient may elect to not have their name placed on their appliance. The dentist would merely inform the patient that he or she has this option.

7. The cost of label placement is truly incidental to the cost of the denture to the patient. Currently the cost of one denture can be as much as \$2000.00. The cost of labeling the denture is usually no more than \$25.00, and in many cases the labeling is provided free to the dentist by the dental laboratory that fabricates the appliance.

8. The owner's name is normally placed on or embedded in the inside surface of the denture or partial. The size of the label is usually one millimeter by five millimeters. It does not stick out from the surface of the denture.

9. There may be concern from dentists that this bill will create more paperwork. Paperwork would only occur if the patient elects not to have a name placed in the denture and they sign a sheet saying no to a label. In my entire professional career I have never had a patient object when I told them that they would receive their denture with their name in it. On the contrary, every person was very pleased. So, I've never had any paperwork.

# Voting Sheets



**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 205**

**BILL TITLE:** relative to the identification of dental prosthetic and orthodontic appliances.

**DATE:** January 30, 2013

**LOB ROOM:** 205

**Amendments:**

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

**Motions:** OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Retained (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. Thomas Sherman

Seconded by Rep. Richard Meaney

Vote: 16-0 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

**Motions:** OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Retained (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

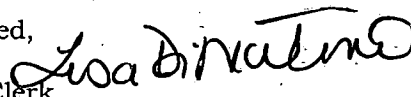
**CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE: 16-0**

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

**Statement of Intent:** Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Lisa DiMartino, Clerk



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 205

**BILL TITLE:** relative to the identification of dental prosthetic and orthodontic appliances.

**DATE:** *January 30, 2013*

**LOB ROOM:** 205

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. *Rep Sherman*

Seconded by Rep. *Rep Marney*

Vote: *16-0* (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE: *16-0*

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Jane J. Hunt, Clerk



2013 SESSION

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES & ELDERLY AFFAIRS

Bill #: HB 205 Title: Relative to the identification of dental prosthetic and orthodontic appliances.

PH Date: 01 / 22 / 2013 Exec Session Date: 01 / 30 / 13

Motion: Rep Sherman Amendment #: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER

YEAS

NAYS

Mackay, James R, Chairman	✓	
Harding, Laurie , V Chairman	✓	
French, Barbara C	✓	
<del>Donovan, Thomas E</del> Carey, Lorrie	✓	
* Tilton, Joy K		
Andrews-Ahearn, E. Elaine	✓	
DiMartino, Lisa	✓	
* Helmstetter, Barbara S		
Hunt, Jane J, Clerk	✓	
Sherman, Thomas M	✓	
Ticehurst, Susan J	✓	
McMahon, Charles E	✓	
Emerson, Susan ,	✓	
Kotowski, Frank R,	✓	
* Martel, Andre A		
LeBrun, Donald L	✓	
Culbert, Patrick L	✓	
Meaney, Richard E	✓	
Nelson, Bill G	✓	
* Schmidt, Stephen J		
<b>TOTAL VOTE:</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>

# Committee Report

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**February 6, 2013**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

**The Committee on HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES &  
ELDERLY AFFAIRS to which was referred HB205,**

**AN ACT relative to the identification of dental  
prosthetic and orthodontic appliances. Having  
considered the same, report the same with the following  
Resolution: RESOLVED, That it is INEXPEDIENT TO  
LEGISLATE.**

**Rep. Thomas M Sherman**

**FOR THE COMMITTEE**

## COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	<b>HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES &amp; ELDERLY AFFAIRS</b>
Bill Number:	<b>HB205</b>
Title:	<b>relative to the identification of dental prosthetic and orthodontic appliances.</b>
Date:	<b>January 30, 2013</b>
Consent Calendar:	<b>YES</b>
Recommendation:	<b>INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE</b>

### STATEMENT OF INTENT

The bill would require dentists to mark all dental prosthetic and orthodontic appliances with the name of the patient. It was introduced to address concerns about identification of the wearers of dental appliances such as dentures and retainers for the purpose of recovery of lost appliances and forensic identification of the wearer of the devices. Experts in the field including the NH Dental Society and several orthodontists and dentists agreed that orthodontic appliances could not be reasonably marked with the wearer's name. In terms of identification of dentures, concerns were raised that this was better addressed as a best practice within the profession. Other concerns about the bill included the reliance in the legislation on technology that could become obsolete, the cost of the program, the additional record keeping required and privacy issues. However, the Committee agreed with the sponsors as to the utility of identification on dentures and will write a letter to the Dental Society urging them to promote this as a best practice.

Vote 16-0.

Rep. Thomas M Sherman  
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

## CONSENT CALENDAR

### HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES & ELDERLY AFFAIRS

**HB205**, relative to the identification of dental prosthetic and orthodontic appliances.

#### **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Thomas M Sherman for HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES & ELDERLY AFFAIRS. The bill would require dentists to mark all dental prosthetic and orthodontic appliances with the name of the patient. It was introduced to address concerns about identification of the wearers of dental appliances such as dentures and retainers for the purpose of recovery of lost appliances and forensic identification of the wearer of the devices. Experts in the field including the NH Dental Society and several orthodontists and dentists agreed that orthodontic appliances could not be reasonably marked with the wearer's name. In terms of identification of dentures, concerns were raised that this was better addressed as a best practice within the profession. Other concerns about the bill included the reliance in the legislation on technology that could become obsolete, the cost of the program, the additional record keeping required and privacy issues. However, the Committee agreed with the sponsors as to the utility of identification on dentures and will write a letter to the Dental Society urging them to promote this as a best practice. **Vote 16-0.**

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

Blurb Draft

State of New Hampshire

HB 205, relative to Identification of Dental Prosthetic and Orthodontic Appliances.  
INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.

Rep. Tom Sherman for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. The bill would require dentists to mark all dental prosthetic and orthodontic appliances with the name of the patient. It was introduced to address concerns about identification of the wearers of dental appliances such as dentures and retainers for the purpose of recovery of lost appliances and forensic identification of the wearer of the devices. Experts in the field including the NH Dental Society and several orthodontists and dentists agreed that orthodontic appliances could not be reasonably marked with the wearer's name. In terms of identification of dentures, concerns were raised that this was better addressed as a best practice within the profession. Other concerns about the bill included the reliance in the legislation on technology that could become obsolete, the cost of the program, the additional record keeping required and privacy issues. However, the Committee agreed with the sponsors as to the utility of identification on dentures and will write a letter to the Dental Society urging them to promote this as a best practice.

*Rep. Tom Sherman*

*Approved  
JRM*



