



House Professional Licensure Committee

Meeting Agenda

February 4, 2026

9 a.m.

515 Irvis Office Building

Call to Order

Roll call

HOUSE BILL 2123 (McNeill) – Amends Title 23 (Domestic Relations) to prohibit unlicensed adoption intermediaries. *This bill is being considered for re-referral to the House Children and Youth Committee.

HOUSE BILL 2163 (Madden) – Amends the Dental Law to expand and extend where a dentist with a restricted faculty license may practice.

Any other business

Adjournment

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2123 Session of
2026

INTRODUCED BY McNEILL, DALEY, RIVERA, HANBIDGE, SANCHEZ, HILL-
EVANS, BRENNAN, HOHENSTEIN, HOWARD, NEILSON AND INGLIS,
JANUARY 9, 2026

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, JANUARY 9, 2026

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in jurisdiction and parties, further
3 providing for representation; in proceedings prior to
4 petition to adopt, further providing for home study and
5 preplacement report; providing for adoption intermediary
6 services and advertising; establishing the Adoption
7 Intermediary Services Fund; and imposing penalties.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. Sections 2313 and 2530 of Title 23 of the
11 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended by adding
12 subsections to read:

13 § 2313. Representation.

14 * * *

15 (a.2) Separate legal representation required.--

16 (1) In a proceeding under this part regarding the
17 voluntary relinquishment of a child:

18 (i) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii), a
19 placing parent of the child shall be represented by an
20 attorney licensed to practice law in this Commonwealth.

1 (ii) A placing parent may waive the right described
2 under subparagraph (i) after being fully informed of the
3 right. The following apply to a waiver:

4 (A) The waiver must be in writing.

5 (B) A person may not require, request or
6 otherwise compel a placing parent to waive the right
7 to representation as a condition of proceeding with
8 an adoption.

9 (iii) An attorney representing a placing parent of
10 the child may not represent any of the following and may
11 not be affiliated, as an associate, partner, shareholder
12 or otherwise, with a law firm representing any of the
13 following:

14 (A) A prospective adoptive parent of the child.

15 (B) A representative or agent of a prospective
16 adoptive parent of the child.

17 (C) The agency or other person involved in the
18 voluntary relinquishment of the child.

19 (2) As used in this subsection, the following words and
20 phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
21 paragraph unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

22 "Placing parent." As defined in section 2801 (relating
23 to definitions).

24 "Prospective adoptive parent." As defined in section
25 2801.

26 * * *

27 § 2530. Home study and preplacement report.

28 * * *

29 (a.1) Training as part of home study.--A home study may
30 include a minimum of six hours of training on transracial

adoption, attachment and trauma-informed parenting. An agency that provides adoption services may provide the training under this subsection.

* * *

Section 2. Title 23 is amended by adding a chapter to read:

CHAPTER 28

ADOPTION INTERMEDIARY SERVICES AND ADVERTISING

Sec.

2801. Definitions.

2802. Authority of department.

2803. Adoption intermediary services.

2804. Adoption advertising.

2805. Adoption Intermediary Services Fund.

§ 2801. Definitions.

The following words and phrases when used in this chapter shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Adoption advertising." An advertisement, article, notice or other paid communication published in a newspaper or magazine, on the Internet, on a billboard, over radio or television or through any public media that does any of the following:

(1) Solicits placing parents or prospective adoptive parents for the purpose of acting as a link between a placing parent and prospective adoptive parent for the placement of a child for adoption.

(2) Offers to pay, reimburse or otherwise provide anything of value to a placing parent of a child in connection with the birth or adoption of the child, including living expenses, medical or hospital care and other expenses.

"Adoption intermediary services." Any of the following

1 actions in exchange for direct or indirect compensation or other
2 consideration that is, or is to be, paid or otherwise given:

3 (1) Soliciting placing parents or prospective adoptive
4 parents, whether through adoption advertising or other means,
5 for the purpose of acting as a link between a placing parent
6 and prospective adoptive parent for the placement of a child
7 for adoption.

8 (2) Acting as a link between a placing parent and
9 prospective adoptive parent, whether directly or through a
10 representative, attorney or agent of the placing parent or
11 prospective adoptive parent, for the placement of a child for
12 adoption.

13 "Department." The Department of Human Services of the
14 Commonwealth.

15 "Fund." The Adoption Intermediary Services Fund established
16 under section 2805(a) (relating to Adoption Intermediary
17 Services Fund).

18 "Placing parent."

19 (1) An individual who is permitted under State law to
20 place a child for adoption voluntarily and whose parental
21 rights to the child have not been terminated.

22 (2) The term includes:

23 (i) A biological or adoptive mother of the child.

24 (ii) A biological, adoptive or legal father of the
25 child.

26 (iii) A representative, attorney or agent of the
27 individual.

28 "Prospective adoptive parent."

29 (1) An individual who, with the intent to adopt a child,
30 holds a valid, unrevoked and unexpired home study in

accordance with this part.

(2) The term includes a representative, attorney or agent of the individual.

§ 2802. Authority of department.

The department shall administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter.

§ 2803. Adoption intermediary services.

(a) Offense.--A person may not provide adoption intermediary services unless the person is an agency, the department or an attorney licensed to practice law in this Commonwealth.

(b) Penalties.--A person that violates this section shall be subject to the following:

(1) For a first violation, a fine of \$15,000. The department shall waive the fine under this paragraph unless the department determines that the person demonstrated willful disregard of the requirements of this section.

(2) For a second violation, a fine of \$20,000.

(3) For a third or subsequent violation, a fine of \$30,000.

(c) Deposit in fund.--Each fine imposed and collected by the department under this section shall be deposited into the fund.

§ 2804. Adoption advertising.

(a) Offense.--A person may not engage in adoption advertising unless the person is an agency, the department or an attorney licensed to practice law in this Commonwealth.

(b) Penalties.--A person that violates this section shall be subject to the following:

(1) For a first violation, a fine of \$10,000. The department shall waive the fine under this paragraph unless the department determines that the person demonstrated

1 willful disregard of the requirements of this section.

2 (2) For a second violation, a fine of \$15,000.

3 (3) For a third or subsequent violation, a fine of
4 \$20,000.

5 (c) Deposit in fund.--Each fine imposed and collected by the
6 department under this section shall be deposited into the fund.

7 (d) Construction.--Nothing in this section shall be
8 construed to penalize or apply penalties to prospective adoptive
9 parents advertising that they are available for the placement of
10 a child into their care for the purposes of adoption, if they
11 have a valid, unrevoked and unexpired home study in accordance
12 with this part.

13 § 2805. Adoption Intermediary Services Fund.

14 (a) Establishment.--The Adoption Intermediary Services Fund
15 is established in the State Treasury.

16 (b) Use of money.--The money in the fund shall be
17 appropriated on a continuing basis to the department to be used
18 to administer and enforce sections 2803 (relating to adoption
19 intermediary services) and 2804 (relating to adoption
20 advertising).

21 Section 3. This act shall apply to proceedings and actions
22 commenced on or after the effective date of this section.

23 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 60 days.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE BILL ANALYSIS

Bill No:	HB2163 PN2800	Prepared By:	Kari Orchard
Committee:	Professional Licensure		(717) 787-6882, ext. 6241
Sponsor:	Madden, Maureen	Executive Director:	Kari Orchard
Date:	1/28/2026		

A. Brief Concept

Allows dentists with a restricted faculty license to practice at dental schools and their off-campus affiliated health care facilities.

C. Analysis of the Bill

Senate Bill 842 amends **The Dental Law** (Act 76 of 1933) to expand where a dentist with a restricted faculty license may practice and allow those licensees to practice for continuing education purposes for up to one year without a state license.

Teaching CE Courses

The bill increases the time an international or out-of-state dentist can teach dentistry in a CE course offered by a dental school in Pennsylvania to up to one year (increased from 20 days) without a Pennsylvania license. These individuals must work under the direct supervision of a licensed Pennsylvania dentist and practice at an approved educational facility.

Restricted Faculty License

A licensee holding a restricted faculty license may teach at any clinical facility owned and operated by a dental school or an affiliated academic health care center that is not for profit. This is an expansion from current law that restricts teaching to the primary facility of a dental school. Licensees may also engage in clinical teaching or practice at dental school-owned faculty practices.

The bill expands the types of education that qualify for a restricted faculty license to include:

- Advanced education in general dentistry or general practice residency approved by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the ADA; and
- Training in a dental specialty or advanced clinical education from an international program.

Miscellaneous Provisions

The bill updates language surrounding assessments of moral character throughout the act.

It also removes language limiting those with a restricted faculty license from practicing at satellite or other off-campus locations, such as clinics.

Effective Date:

This act shall take effect in 60 days.

G. Relevant Existing Laws

The dental profession is governed by Act 76 of 1933, known as **The Dental Law**, as well as by regulations of the Board of Dentistry in Title 49, Chapter 33 of the PA Code.

Restricted faculty licenses were established by Act 89 of 2014, with the allowance for internationally trained dentists to utilize this license coming via Act 60 of 2015.

"Restricted Faculty License" is defined as a license granted to an individual for the limited purpose of teaching, including clinical teaching, in a dental school or advanced dental education program as a faculty member at an accredited dental school in this Commonwealth.

Section 11.11 of The Dental Law restricts faculty licensees to practicing only in the primary facility of the dental school and prohibits clinical teaching at a satellite location or other school-affiliated clinic off campus. Dentists with a restricted faculty license may not practice independently in Pennsylvania (and that is maintained even under this bill).

In order to apply for a restricted faculty license, an applicant must have an offer of appointment to a Pennsylvania dental school in order to apply. The dean of the school must also complete a form on behalf of the candidate that is submitted to the Board of Dentistry.

If the applicant completed a specialty dentistry program, or advanced dental training in a clinical field that is not CODA-accredited, the dean of the school extending the faculty appointment shall submit a letter, for the Board's review, detailing the applicant's skills, education, training, and experience that will benefit the didactic and clinical training of the students and residents at the school.

E. Prior Session (Previous Bill Numbers & House/Senate Votes)

This legislation has not been introduced in previous sessions.

This document is a summary of proposed legislation and is prepared only as general information for use by the Democratic Members and Staff of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. The document does not represent the legislative intent of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and may not be utilized as such.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2163 Session of
2026

INTRODUCED BY MADDEN, HILL-EVANS, FREEMAN, HANBIDGE, SANCHEZ,
BURNS, RIVERA, DALEY AND CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, JANUARY 28, 2026

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE,
JANUARY 28, 2026

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," further providing for definitions, for
10 general powers of the State Board of Dentistry, for penalties
11 and for restricted faculty license.

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

14 Section 1. The definitions of "practice of dentistry" and
15 "restricted faculty license" in section 2 of the act of May 1,
16 1933 (P.L.216, No.76), known as The Dental Law, are amended to
17 read:

18 Section 2. Definitions.--A person engages in the "Practice
19 of Dentistry," within the meaning of this act, who diagnoses,
20 treats, operates on, or prescribes for any disease, pain or
21 injury, or regulates any deformity or physical condition, of the
22 human teeth, jaws, or associated structures, or conducts a

1 physical evaluation, or administers anesthetic agents, or uses
2 ionizing radiation in the course of dental practice, or who
3 fits, constructs, and inserts any artificial appliance, plate,
4 or denture for the human teeth or jaws, or who holds himself or
5 herself out as being able or legally authorized to do so. The
6 term "Practice of Dentistry" includes the practice of dentistry
7 under a restricted faculty license. The term "Practice of
8 Dentistry" does not include:

9 (a) The practice of any of the healing arts by duly licensed
10 practitioners.

11 (b) The extracting of teeth or relieving pain by a licensed
12 physician or surgeon in emergencies, or the making of
13 applications for such purposes.

14 (c) The practice of dentistry by a duly licensed
15 practitioner of dentistry of any other state or country, for the
16 limited purpose of consultation with respect to any case under
17 treatment in this Commonwealth, or of demonstrating before any
18 duly authorized dental society in this Commonwealth.

19 (e) The practice of dentistry in clinical departments and
20 laboratories of dental schools and their affiliated facilities
21 approved by the board in the Commonwealth, by bona fide students
22 pursuing a course of study leading to the degree of Doctor of
23 Dental Surgery or Doctor of Dental Medicine.

24 (f) The practice of dentistry in a dental clinic operated
25 not for profit for the duration of an internship, residency or
26 other graduate training program approved by the American Dental
27 Association Commission on Dental Accreditation or a dental
28 anesthesiology training program that meets the standards of an
29 accrediting body acceptable to the board, by persons having
30 acquired the preliminary and professional education required for

admission into the program, after notification to the board.

(g) The practice of dentistry in a clinical continuing education course offered by a dental school in this Commonwealth for a duration of [twenty days or less] one year, either continuous or in several sessions, where dentists licensed in the United States or other countries work under the direct supervision of dentists licensed by the Commonwealth, and delivered within the educational facilities of a dental school in this Commonwealth that is approved by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation.

* * *

"Restricted Faculty License" means a license granted to an individual for the limited purpose of teaching, including clinical teaching, in [a dental school or] any of the following:

(1) A clinical facility owned and operated by a dental school or affiliated academic health care center when the clinical facility or affiliated academic health care center is not operated for the profit of the dental school or any affiliated third party.

(2) An advanced dental education program as a faculty member at an accredited dental school in this Commonwealth.

* * *

Section 2. Sections 3(c), (d) and (d.1)(1) introductory paragraph, 10(g.1) and 11.11(a) introductory paragraph and (3) and (b) of the act are amended to read:

Section 3. General Powers of the State Board of Dentistry.--
The State Board of Dentistry (hereinafter called the board) shall have the following powers and duties:

* * *

(c) To provide for and to regulate the licensing, and to

1 license to practice dentistry, after examination, any duly
2 qualified applicant, at least twenty-one years of age, of good
3 moral character, not addicted to the use of intoxicating liquor
4 or narcotic drugs, who has obtained the required education,
5 together with a diploma from an approved institution or college
6 conferring upon him or her the degree of doctor of dental
7 surgery or other established dental degree. In assessing the
8 moral character of an individual with a criminal conviction, the
9 board shall conduct an individualized assessment in accordance
10 with 63 Pa.C.S. § 3113 (relating to consideration of criminal
11 convictions). The board shall not issue a license to an
12 applicant who has been convicted of a felony under the act of
13 April 14, 1972 (P.L.233, No.64), known as "The Controlled
14 Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act," or of an offense
15 under the laws of another jurisdiction which if committed in
16 this Commonwealth would be a felony under "The Controlled
17 Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act," unless: (1) at least
18 ten (10) years have elapsed from the date of conviction, (2) the
19 applicant satisfactorily demonstrates to the board that he has
20 made significant progress in personal rehabilitation since the
21 conviction such that licensure of the applicant should not be
22 expected to create a substantial risk of harm to the health and
23 safety of his patients or the public or a substantial risk of
24 further criminal violations, and (3) the applicant otherwise
25 satisfies the qualifications contained in or authorized by this
26 act. As used in this section the term "convicted" shall include
27 a judgment, an admission of guilt or a plea of nolo contendere.

28 * * *

29 (d) To provide for and to regulate the licensing, and to
30 license as a dental hygienist, after examination, any duly

1 qualified person, not less than eighteen years of age, of good
2 moral character, not addicted to the use of intoxicating liquor
3 or narcotic drugs, who has obtained the required education for
4 the training of dental hygienists from an approved institution
5 or college that meets or exceeds the minimum standards
6 established by an approved United States Department of
7 Education-recognized regional accrediting agency or the American
8 Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation. In
9 assessing the moral character of an individual with a criminal
10 conviction, the board shall conduct an individualized assessment
11 in accordance with 63 Pa.C.S. § 3113. The board shall,
12 consistent with this act, adopt regulations providing for the
13 general supervision and practice of dental hygienists under this
14 act.

15 (d.1) (1) To provide for and to regulate the certification
16 and to certify as an expanded function dental assistant any duly
17 qualified person[,] who is not less than eighteen years of age,
18 of good moral character[,] and not addicted to the use of
19 intoxicating liquor or narcotic drugs[, who has:]. In assessing
20 the moral character of an individual with a criminal conviction,
21 the board shall conduct an individualized assessment in
22 accordance with 63 Pa.C.S. § 3113. To be a duly qualified person
23 for a certification as an expanded function dental assistant,
24 the person must have:

25 * * *

26 Section 10. Penalties.--* * *

27 (g.1) It is unlawful for any restricted faculty licensee to
28 practice dentistry outside the [primary facilities of the dental
29 school] facilities owned or operated by a dental school, an
30 affiliated academic health care center or a dental school-owned

1 faculty practice in this Commonwealth at which the individual is
2 licensed to teach.

3 * * *

4 Section 11.11. Restricted Faculty License.--(a) The board
5 shall grant without examination a restricted faculty license to
6 any qualified individual[,] under this subsection who is not
7 less than twenty-five years of age, of good moral character[,]
8 and not addicted to the use of intoxicating liquor or narcotic
9 drugs[, who satisfies the following criteria:]. In assessing the
10 moral character of an individual with a criminal conviction, the
11 board shall conduct an individualized assessment in accordance
12 with 63 Pa.C.S. § 3113 (relating to consideration of criminal
13 convictions). To be a qualified individual under this
14 subsection, the individual must satisfy the following criteria:

15 * * *

16 (3) Has successfully completed [a] any of the following:
17 (i) A specialty dentistry program, or advanced dental
18 training in a clinical field, including advanced education in
19 general dentistry or general practice residency, that is
20 approved by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the
21 American Dental Association.

22 (ii) Training in a dental specialty or in advanced clinical
23 education from an international program.

24 * * *

25 (b) A restricted faculty license shall entitle the licensee
26 to engage as a full-time faculty member in direct clinical
27 teaching and practice, which shall include practicing clinical
28 care for the purpose of instructing and teaching students and
29 residents, [and] supervision of care provided by students and
30 residents and practicing dentistry at an educational clinic for

1 the purpose of maintaining skills, in no more than one area of
2 specialty or in general dentistry, only within the educational
3 facilities [of] owned or operated by a dental school, an
4 affiliated academic health care center or a dental school-owned
5 faculty practice in this Commonwealth that is approved by the
6 Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental
7 Association. [Licensees shall be limited to the primary
8 facilities within the dental school and may not engage in
9 clinical teaching at satellite or other off-campus sites, such
10 as clinics. The practice of dentistry at any satellite or off-
11 campus site requires an unrestricted license to practice
12 dentistry issued by the board.]

13 * * *

14 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.