

45:6-19.1 to 45:6-19.4

**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST**

**NJSA:** 45:6-19.1 to 45:6-19.4 (Dentures - identification)

**LAWS OF:** 1983 **CHAPTER:** 514

**Bill No:** A1409

**Sponsor(s):** Muhler

**Date Introduced:** May 17, 1982

**Committee:** **Assembly:** Commerce and Industry  
**Senate:** Labor, Industry and Professions

**Amended during passage:** No

**Date of Passage:** **Assembly:** February 14, 1983  
**Senate:** January 9, 1984

**Date of Approval:** January 17, 1984

**Following statements are attached if available:**

**Sponsor statement:** Yes

**Committee statement:** **Assembly** Yes

**Senate** Yes

**Fiscal Note:** No

**Veto Message:** No

**Message on Signing:** ~~No~~ Yes

**Following were printed:**

**Reports:** No

**Hearings:** No

**Minnesota and Montana Statutes:**  
Minnesota Statutes Annotated Section 150A.21  
Montana Statutes Annotated Section 37-4-503

ASSEMBLY, No. 1409

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MAY 17, 1982

By Assemblywoman MUHLER

AN ACT to provide for the identification of dentures and supplementing chapter 6 of Title 45 of the Revised Statutes.

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
2 *of New Jersey:*

1 1. For purposes of this act:

2 a. "Prosthesis" means an artificial substitute for a missing body  
3 part, such as a tooth, used for functional or cosmetic reasons or  
4 both.

5 b. "Rebasing" means the act of replacing the base material of a  
6 denture without changing the occlusal relations of the teeth.

1 2. Every complete upper and lower denture and removable  
2 dental prosthesis fabricated by a dentist licensed by this State  
3 shall be marked with the name and social security number of the  
4 patient for whom the prosthesis is intended unless the patient  
5 objects thereto. The markings shall be done during fabrication and  
6 shall be permanent, legible and cosmetically acceptable. The exact  
7 location of the markings and the methods used to apply or implant  
8 them shall be determined by the dentist or dental laboratory fabri-  
9 cating the prosthesis on behalf of the dentist. If in the professional  
10 judgment of the dentist or dental laboratory this identification is  
11 not practicable, identification shall be provided as follows:

12 a. The Social Security number of the patient may be omitted  
13 if the name of the patient is shown;

14 b. The initials of the patient may be shown alone, if the use of  
15 the name of the patient is impracticable;

16 c. The identification marks may be omitted in their entirety if

17 none of the forms of identification specified in subsections a. and  
18 b. of this section are practicable or clinically safe.

1 3. Any removable dental prosthesis in existence prior to the  
2 effective date of this act, which was not marked at the time of its  
3 fabrication in accordance with section 2. of this act, shall be so  
4 marked at the time of any subsequent rebasing.

1 4. The board shall adopt rules and regulations and provide  
2 standards to carry out the provisions of this act.

1 5. This act shall take effect 90 days after enactment.

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#### STATEMENT

This bill requires that all removable dental prosthesis fabricated or rebased by any dentist in this State shall be marked with the name and Social Security number of the patient. The bill also provides certain alternatives where full marking is not practicable.

The purpose of this bill is to provide for the identification of dentures in the event they are lost or misplaced. This is particularly true in nursing home situations. In addition, the marking of dental prosthesis would assist authorities in the identification of victims after disasters such as the Bradley Beach fire in July, 1980.

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A 1409 (1983)

ASSEMBLY COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1409

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JANUARY 31, 1983

The Assembly Commerce and Industry Committee reports favorably on this bill concerning the labelling of partial and complete dental prostheses (dentures) for identification purposes. Specifically, this bill requires that a complete or partial denture or removable dental prosthesis, made by a dentist licensed by this state, bear the name and Social Security number of the patient for whom it is intended, unless objected to by the patient. The permanent markings would be done either during the making of the denture or during replacement of the base material of an existing denture, in a process known as "rebasings". The fabricating dentist or dental laboratory would have discretion insofar as the method used to place a marking and its exact location on the denture. If, in the professional judgment of the dentist or dental laboratory, the placing of the full identification is not feasible, the following alternatives are available:

- a. The omission of the Social Security number if the name of the patient is shown;
- b. The placing of a patient's initials, rather than name, where the use of the name is impracticable; or
- c. The omission of identification marks entirely if the placing of them is not feasible or clinically safe.

The consensus of opinion among members of the medical profession is that denture identification is a simple, inexpensive procedure that is an invaluable means of identifying victims of such disasters as fires, although its primary utility is as an aid in recovering lost or misplaced dentures, particularly in nursing home situations.

The states of Minnesota and Montana have enacted laws similar to this bill.

SENATE LABOR, INDUSTRY AND PROFESSIONS  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**ASSEMBLY, No. 1409**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: DECEMBER 8, 1983

This bill requires that a complete or partial denture or removable dental prosthesis, made by a dentist licensed by this State, bear the name and Social Security number of the patient for whom it is intended, unless objected to by the patient. The permanent markings would be done either during the making of the denture or during replacement of the base material of an existing denture. The fabricating dentist or dental laboratory would have discretion as to the method used to place a marking and its exact location on the denture. If, in the professional judgment of the dentist or dental laboratory, the placing of the full identification is not feasible, the following alternatives are available:

- a. The omission of the Social Security number if the name of the patient is shown;
- b. The placing of a patient's initials, rather than name, where the use of the name is impracticable; or
- c. The omission of identification marks entirely if the placing of them is not feasible or clinically safe.

The proponents of the bill feel that denture identification is a simple, inexpensive procedure that is an invaluable means of identifying victims of such disasters as fires, although its primary utility is an aid in recovering lost or misplaced dentures, particularly in nursing home situations.

The states of Minnesota and Montana have enacted laws similar to this bill.

A-4112 SIGNED ET AL.

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JANUARY 17, 1984

A-1409, sponsored by Assemblywoman Marie S. Muhler, R-Monmouth, which requires that all removable dental protheses fabricated or rebased by any dentist in this State be marked with the name and Social Security number of the owner unless the owner objects. The bill is intended to facilitate the recovery of dentures lost or stolen from an individual who is a patient in a hospital or nursing home. It is also expected to assist authorities in the identification of disaster victims.

A-1803, sponsored by Assemblyman Garabed Haytaian, R-Warren, which permits elected members of county vocational school boards to sit on county college boards of trustees.

A-3252, sponsored by Assemblyman Karl Weidel, R-Mercer, which removes the 8 percent ceiling on the interest rate paid on bonds of the Delaware River Basin Commission. Similar enabling legislation has been enacted in Delaware, New York and Pennsylvania.

A-3696, sponsored by Assemblyman David C. Schwartz, D-Middlesex, which permits a municipality to sell land to the county in which it is located for a nominal price, provided that the land is to be used by the county for a public purpose.

A-3961, sponsored by Assemblyman Wayne R. Bryant, D-Camden, which permits the governing body of a municipality or a zoning development corporation to formulate a zone development plan for an urban enterprise zone. Current law only allows a zone development corporation to develop such a plan.