

**BILL SUMMARY**  
1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 60<sup>th</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>HB2899</b>
<b>Version:</b>	<b>INT</b>
<b>Request Number:</b>	<b>11752</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Rep. Townley</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>2/26/2025</b>
<b>Impact:</b>	<b>OSDH: \$0</b>

**Research Analysis**

HB 2899, as introduced, provides that a dentist holding a valid dental license in Oklahoma may consult, diagnose, and treat a patient of record via synchronous or asynchronous telecommunication as long as the dentist has an office location in Oklahoma or adjacent to Oklahoma and within 50 miles of the Oklahoma border of a state with an interstate dental and dental hygienist compact. The measure also adds that the Legislature recognizes a need to allow providers to work at the top of their license and utilize supporting roles and address the need for dental faculty. The measure also extends the Oklahoma Dental Loan Repayment Program to provide assistance for up to 30 full-time Oklahoma licensed dentists per year. Each award is not to exceed \$60,000 per year for a maximum of five years. The measure provides that a licensed Pediatric Dentistry Specialist practicing in an Oklahoma Board of Dentistry-registered dental facility may be exempt from the requirement to practice in a Dental Health Professional Shortage Area.

Prepared By: Suzie Nahach, House Research Staff

**Fiscal Analysis**

HB 2899 modifies the requirements for dental professionals who provide care through telecommunications. Additionally, the measure increases the number of participants eligible for educational assistance through the Oklahoma Dental Loan Repayment Program from twenty-five (25) to thirty (30) full-time licensed dentists per year and increases the loan amount from fifty thousand (\$50,000) to sixty thousand (\$60,000) per year.

The State Department of Health (OSDH) provides funding for the loan repayment program. Officials from OSDH confirmed they do not anticipate the increase in participants or assistance to have a negative fiscal impact on the agency and is reasonable within current budgetary resources.

Prepared By: Alexandra Ladner, House Fiscal Staff

**Other Considerations**

None.