



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 103

January Session, 2009

Substitute House Bill No. 6266

House of Representatives, March 19, 2009

The Committee on Public Health reported through REP. RITTER of the 38th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRACTICE OF ACUPUNCTURE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 20-206bb of the general statutes is amended by
2 adding subsection (j) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

3 (NEW) (j) No person shall use the title "acupuncturist", or use in
4 connection with his or her name, any letters, words or insignia
5 indicating or implying that such person is a licensed acupuncturist or
6 advertise services as an acupuncturist, unless such person holds a
7 license as an acupuncturist issued pursuant to this section. No person
8 shall represent himself or herself as being certified to practice auricular
9 acupuncture for the treatment of alcohol and drug abuse, or use in
10 connection with his or her name the term "acupuncture detoxification
11 specialist", or the letters "A.D.S." or any letters, words or insignia
12 indicating or implying that such person is certified to practice
13 auricular acupuncture for the treatment of alcohol and drug abuse
14 unless such person is certified in accordance with subsection (h) of this
15 section. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent a

16 person from providing care, or performing or advertising services
17 within the scope of such person's license or as otherwise authorized in
18 this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	20-206bb

PH *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 10 \$	FY 11 \$
Public Health, Dept.	None	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill does not result in a fiscal impact. It prohibits individuals, who are not licensed acupuncturists, to indicate, imply, or advertise as "acupuncturists." The bill does not give the Department of Public Health the authority to take disciplinary action against individuals using the title of "acupuncturist" without an acupuncturist license, however, it should be noted that were enforcement of the provisions of the bill expected, the agency would incur potential costs to support additional staff.

The Out Years

None

Source: 2/6/09 Public Hearing Testimony

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 6266*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRACTICE OF ACUPUNCTURE.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill provides title protection to licensed acupuncturists and to individuals certified to practice auricular acupuncture for alcohol and drug abuse treatment.

The bill prohibits unlicensed individuals from using the title of "acupuncturist" or advertising acupuncture services. Also, individuals may not use any letters, words, or insignia in connection with their names that indicates or implies that they are licensed acupuncturists.

The bill also prohibits a person from representing himself as certified to practice auricular acupuncture for treatment of alcohol and drug abuse unless certified to do so. A person may not use the term "acupuncture detoxification specialist," or the letters A.D.S. or any letters, words, or insignia indicating or implying that he or she is certified to practice auricular acupuncture for alcohol and drug abuse treatment unless certified under the law.

The bill specifies that it should not be construed as preventing someone from providing care, or performing or advertising services within the scope of his or her license or as otherwise authorized by law.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2009

BACKGROUND***Auricular Acupuncture***

Auricular acupuncture is treatment by inserting needles at a specified combination of points on the surface of the outer ear to aid in

the detoxification and rehabilitation of substance abusers.

In order to practice auricular acupuncture in the state, the law requires individuals to be certified by an organization approved by the Department of Public Health (DPH). The treatment must be done under the supervision of a licensed physician and in either (1) a private freestanding facility for the care or treatment of substance abusive or dependent persons, licensed by DPH, or (2) a setting operated by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 29 Nay 0 (03/04/2009)