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From: Joe Pandolfo

To: Rep. Ritter, Elizabeth ; harris@senatedems.ct.gov

Cc: beverly.henry@cga.ct.gov ; jacqueline.caron@cga.ct.gov

Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2009 8:17 AM

Subject: Re: Acupuncturist Legislation

Dear Representative Ritter, Senator Harris:

Thank you for this information and helping us navigate the process. And, again, thank you for raising our bill (HB 6266-AAC the Practice of Acupuncture).

Checking the raised bill text as you've suggested, I do see there is an omission which is important to correct. Would you please help us make this correction at the proper time/stage in the process?

Specifically, our original proposal included a statement that persons without the acupuncturist license cannot advertise services under the description of "Acupuncturist". That text was included to add clarity around one of the main consumer information problems that our proposal is meant to remedy. We feel some important clarity is lost without this detail.

We also feel this detail is important to clarify the corresponding advertising statement in the existing raised bill text, that other professionals are not prevented from advertising services within their scope or authorization. While we recognize that other professionals are permitted to perform acupuncture techniques within the confines of their own profession's standards, one doesn't hold the title of acupuncturist unless s/he obtains the acupuncture license. Without both corresponding advertising statements, the bill doesn't make clear that advertising practice must be consistent with the titling practice.

As suggested, I've included below the wording change we're requesting (red underline text). This text is modeled from similar title protection text in the Respiratory Care Therapist practice law

Generally we're very pleased with the progress of the bill. We look forward to attending Friday's public hearing, and expect some at-large members of the CSAOM to also attend and speak in favor of the bill. It will be the first public hearing for many, so I've circulated CGA Citizen Guide information to the members planning to attend.

Again, thank you, and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions that I can help with,

Sincerely,

Joe Pandolfo

wkdays/office: 226-8454

home: 860-423-2646, joelpan@sbcglobal.net

REQUESTED BILL TEXT CHANGE

General Assembly
January Session, 2009

Raised Bill No. 6266
LCO No. 2514
*02514 _____ PH *

Referred to Committee on Public Health
Introduced by:
(PH)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRACTICE OF ACUPUNCTURE.

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

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

(NEW) (j) No person shall use the title "acupuncturist", or use in connection with his or her name, any letters, words or insignia indicating or implying that such person is a licensed acupuncturist or advertise services as an "Acupuncturist", unless such person holds a license as an acupuncturist issued pursuant to this section. No person shall represent himself or herself as being certified to practice auricular acupuncture for the treatment of alcohol and drug abuse, or use in connection with his or her name the term "acupuncture detoxification specialist", or the letters "A.D.S." or any letters, words or insignia indicating or implying that such person is certified to practice auricular acupuncture for the treatment of alcohol and drug abuse unless such person is certified in accordance with subsection (h) of this section. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent a person from providing care, or performing or advertising services within the scope of such person's license or as otherwise authorized in this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1 *October 1, 2009* 20-206bb

Statement of Purpose:

To ensure that state residents have an accurate and consistent way to recognize the qualifications of acupuncture practitioners.