



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 712

February Session, 2014

Substitute Senate Bill No. 437

Senate, April 30, 2014

The Committee on Appropriations reported through SEN. BYE of the 5th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRACTICE OF NATUREOPATHY.

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

1 Section 1. Section 20-34 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):

3 (a) The practice of natureopathy means the science, art and practice
4 of healing [by natural methods as recognized by the Council of
5 Natureopathic Medical Education and] that comprises diagnosis,
6 prevention and treatment of disease and health optimization by
7 stimulation and support of the body's natural healing processes, as
8 approved by the State Board of Natureopathic Examiners, with the
9 consent of the [commissioner] Commissioner of Public Health, and
10 shall include (1) counseling; [and] (2) the practice of the mechanical
11 and material sciences of healing as follows: The mechanical sciences
12 such as mechanotherapy, articular manipulation, corrective and
13 orthopedic gymnastics, physiotherapy, hydrotherapy, electrotherapy
14 and phototherapy; and the material sciences such as nutrition,
15 dietetics, phytotherapy, treatment by natural substances and external

16 applications; (3) ordering diagnostic tests and other diagnostic
 17 procedures; (4) ordering medical devices, including continuous
 18 glucose monitors, glucose meters, glucose test strips, barrier
 19 contraceptives and durable medical equipment; and (5) removing ear
 20 wax, removing foreign bodies from the ear, nose and skin, shaving
 21 corns and calluses, spirometry, tuberculosis testing, vaccine
 22 administration, venipuncture for blood testing and minor wound
 23 repair, including suturing.

24 (b) For purposes of subsection (a) of this section, "natural
 25 substances" means substances [which] that are not narcotic substances,
 26 as defined in subdivision (30) of section 21a-240, do not require the
 27 written or oral prescription of a licensed practitioner to be dispensed
 28 and are only administered orally.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2014	20-34

APP *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:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None***Explanation***

The bill expands the scope of naturopathic practice, which does not alter Department of Public Health licensure and regulatory responsibilities and does not result in a fiscal impact.

The Out Years***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 437*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRACTICE OF NATUREOPATHY.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill expands the definition of naturopathy and its scope of practice to specifically include, among other things, the science, art, and practice of healing that comprises diagnosing, preventing, and treating diseases and optimizing health by stimulating and supporting the body's natural healing processes. It eliminates the requirement that the natural healing methods be recognized by the Council of Natureopathic Medical Education. By law, and unchanged by the bill, these methods must be approved by the State Board of Natureopathic Examiners, with the consent of the public health commissioner.

The bill also makes technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2014.

NATUROPATHY

The bill expands the scope of naturopathic practice to include:

1. ordering diagnostic tests and other diagnostic procedures;
2. ordering medical devices, including continuous glucose monitors, glucose meters and test strips, barrier contraceptives, and durable medical equipment;
3. removing ear wax and foreign bodies from the ear, nose and skin;
4. shaving corns and calluses;
5. spirometry (i.e., breath and lung capacity analysis);

6. tuberculosis testing;
7. vaccine administration; and
8. venipuncture for blood testing and minor wound repair, including suturing.

By law, unchanged by the bill, naturopathic practitioners can conduct counseling; offer treatment by natural substances; and perform several mechanical therapies, including orthopedic gymnastics and hydrotherapy.

BACKGROUND

Legislative History

The Senate referred the original bill (File 520) to the Appropriations Committee, which favorably reported a substitute that eliminates several provisions relating to the licensure of genetic counselors.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 25 Nay 0 (03/27/2014)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 47 Nay 1 (04/24/2014)