



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 534

February Session, 2016

Substitute House Bill No. 5534

House of Representatives, April 7, 2016

The Committee on Public Health reported through REP. RITTER of the 1st Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRACTICE OF NATUROPATHY.

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 Section 20-34 of the general statutes is repealed and the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, 2016*):

3 (a) The practice of naturopathy means the science, art and practice
4 of healing by natural methods as recognized by the Council of
5 Naturopathic 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 Naturopathic Examiners, with the
9 consent of the Commissioner of Public Health, and shall include (1)
10 counseling; (2) the practice of the [mechanical and material] physical
11 and therapeutic sciences of healing as follows: [The mechanical
12 sciences such as mechanotherapy] Corrective exercise therapy for
13 rehabilitation, articular manipulation, [corrective and orthopedic
14 gymnastics,] physiotherapy, hydrotherapy, electrotherapy and
15 phototherapy; and the [material] sciences such as nutrition, dietetics,

16 phytotherapy [] and treatment by natural substances and external
 17 applications; (3) ordering diagnostic tests and other diagnostic
 18 procedures; [as such tests and procedures relate to the practice of
 19 mechanical and material sciences of healing as described in
 20 subdivision (2) of this subsection;] (4) ordering medical devices and
 21 durable medical equipment; and (5) removing ear wax, spirometry,
 22 tuberculosis testing and venipuncture for blood testing.

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

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2016	20-34

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

This bill does not result in a fiscal impact to the Department of Public Health as it is not anticipated to alter the number of naturopathic physicians licensed by the agency or associated regulatory activities.

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

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5534

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRACTICE OF NATUROPATHY.

SUMMARY:

This bill modifies the scope of practice of naturopathy by including the practice of “physical and therapeutic sciences of healing” instead of “mechanical and material sciences.” It adds corrective exercise therapy for rehabilitation to the types of therapies naturopathic physicians may practice and removes (1) orthopedic gymnastics and (2) mechanotherapy.

Existing law already allows naturopathic physicians to practice (1) articular manipulation, physiotherapy, hydrotherapy, electrotherapy, and phototherapy and (2) sciences such as nutrition, dietetics, phytotherapy, and treatment by natural substances and external applications.

The bill also makes technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2016

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 16 Nay 12 (03/21/2016)