

Senate, March 30, 1998. The Committee on Public Health reported through SEN. HARP, 10th DIST., Chairman of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING ACUPUNCTURE LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT.

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

1 Section 20-206bb of the general statutes, as
2 amended by section 9 of public act 97-213, is
3 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
4 thereof:

5 (a) No person shall perform acupuncture
6 unless he has obtained a license as an
7 acupuncturist pursuant to this section.

8 (b) Each person seeking licensure as an
9 acupuncturist shall make application on forms
10 prescribed by the department, pay an application
11 fee of one hundred dollars and present to the
12 department satisfactory evidence that he (1) has
13 completed sixty semester hours, or its equivalent,
14 of postsecondary study in an institution of
15 postsecondary education which, if in the United
16 States or its territories, was accredited by a
17 recognized regional accrediting body or, if
18 outside the United States or its territories, was
19 legally chartered to grant postsecondary degrees
20 in the country in which located, (2) has
21 successfully completed a course of study in
22 acupuncture in a program which, at the time of
23 graduation, was in candidate status with or

24 accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by
25 the United States Department of Education and
26 which included a minimum of one thousand three
27 hundred fifty hours of didactic and clinical
28 training, five hundred of which were clinical, (3)
29 has passed an examination prescribed by the
30 department and (4) has successfully completed a
31 course in clean needle technique prescribed by the
32 department. IN CONSIDERING SUCH EVIDENCE, THE
33 COMMISSIONER SHALL ALLOW RELIABLE TRANSLATIONS
34 FROM LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH OF CREDENTIALS,
35 TRAINING AND EXAMINATION RESULTS THAT PERTAIN TO
36 LICENSURE ELIGIBILITY.

37 (c) AN APPLICANT FOR LICENSURE AS AN
38 ACUPUNCTURIST BY ENDORSEMENT SHALL PRESENT
39 EVIDENCE SATISFACTORY TO THE COMMISSIONER OF
40 LICENSURE OR CERTIFICATION AS AN ACUPUNCTURIST, OR
41 AS A PERSON ENTITLED TO PERFORM SIMILAR SERVICES
42 UNDER A DIFFERENT DESIGNATION, IN ANOTHER STATE OR
43 JURISDICTION WHOSE REQUIREMENTS FOR PRACTICING IN
44 SUCH CAPACITY ARE SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR TO OR
45 HIGHER THAN THOSE OF THIS STATE AND THAT THERE ARE
46 NO DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS OR UNRESOLVED COMPLAINTS
47 PENDING. IN CONSIDERING SUCH EVIDENCE, THE
48 COMMISSIONER SHALL ALLOW RELIABLE TRANSLATIONS
49 FROM LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH OF CREDENTIALS,
50 TRAINING AND EXAMINATION RESULTS THAT PERTAIN TO
51 LICENSURE ELIGIBILITY.

52 [(c)] (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of
53 subsection (b) of this section, the department
54 shall, prior to January 1, 1999, issue a license
55 to any applicant who presents to the department
56 satisfactory evidence that he has (1) passed the
57 National Commission for the Certification of
58 Acupuncturists written examination by test or by
59 credentials review, (2) successfully completed the
60 practical examination of point location skills
61 offered by the National Commission for the
62 Certification of Acupuncturists, and (3)
63 successfully completed a course in clean needle
64 technique prescribed by the department pursuant to
65 subsection (b) of this section.

66 [(d)] (e) Licenses shall be renewed annually
67 in accordance with the provisions of subsection
68 (e) of section 19a-88, AS AMENDED. The fee for
69 renewal shall be one hundred dollars.

70 [(e)] (f) No license shall be issued under
71 this section to any applicant against whom

72 professional disciplinary action is pending or who
73 is the subject of an unresolved complaint in this
74 or any other state or territory of the United
75 States.

76 [(f)] (g) Nothing in section 19a-89c,
77 20-206aa, ~~20-206cc~~ or this section shall be
78 construed to prevent licensed practitioners of the
79 healing arts, as defined in sections 20-1 and
80 20-196, physical therapists or dentists from
81 providing care or performing services consistent
82 with accepted standards within their respective
83 professions.

84 [(g)] (h) Notwithstanding the provisions of
85 subsection (a) of this section, any person
86 certified by an organization approved by the
87 Commissioner of Public Health may practice
88 auricular acupuncture for the treatment of alcohol
89 and drug abuse, provided the treatment is
90 performed under the supervision of a physician
91 licensed under chapter 370 and is performed in
92 either (1) a private free-standing facility
93 licensed by the Department of Public Health for
94 the care or treatment of substance abusive or
95 dependent persons, or (2) a setting operated by
96 the Department of Mental Health and Addiction
97 Services. The Commissioner of Public Health shall
98 adopt regulations, in accordance with the
99 provisions of chapter 54, to ensure the safe
100 provision of auricular acupuncture within private
101 free-standing facilities licensed by the
102 Department of Public Health for the care or
103 treatment of substance abusive or dependent
104 persons.

105 PH COMMITTEE VOTE: YEA 24 NAY 0 JF

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"THE FOLLOWING FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND BILL ANALYSIS ARE PREPARED FOR THE BENEFIT OF 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 HOUSE THEREOF FOR ANY PURPOSE."

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT - BILL NUMBER SB 516

STATE IMPACT Potential Minimal Revenue Gain,
Potential Workload Increase, see
explanation below

MUNICIPAL IMPACT None

STATE AGENCY(S) Department of Public Health

EXPLANATION OF ESTIMATES:

STATE IMPACT: Passage of the bill may result in additional individuals seeking licensure as acupuncturists. A minimal workload increase will result for the Department of Public Health in the course of processing any applications and a minimal revenue gain will result from collection of \$100 initial and renewal license fees from any new applicants.

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OLR BILL ANALYSIS

SB 516

AN ACT CONCERNING ACUPUNCTURE LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT

SUMMARY: This bill directs the Department of Public Health (DPH), when considering an individual's eligibility for licensure as an acupuncturist, to allow applicants to submit reliable translations from other languages of documents concerning credentials, training, and examination results.

The bill also allows acupuncturists to be licensed by

endorsement. "Endorsement" generally means that the state will offer an out-of-state practitioner a license to practice in the state if his professional credentials satisfy the state's licensing requirements.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 1998

FURTHER EXPLANATION

Acupuncturist Licensure by Endorsement

Under the bill, a person seeking licensure by endorsement must provide evidence to DPH of licensure or certification in another state or jurisdiction as an acupuncturist or as a person entitled to perform services similar to those of an acupuncturist but under a different designation. The other state's requirements must be substantially similar to or higher than Connecticut's, and the applicant must have no disciplinary actions or unresolved complaints pending. The bill specifies that DPH must allow applicants to submit reliable translations from other languages when applying for licensure by endorsement.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Report
Yea 24 Nay 0