

ASSEMBLY, No. 4455

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JULY 27, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman VINCENT MAZZEO

District 2 (Atlantic)

SYNOPSIS

“Naturopathic Doctors Licensing Act.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning the licensure of naturopathic doctors, amending
2 various parts of the statutory law, and supplementing Title 45 of
3 the Revised Statutes.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

7
8 1. (New section) This act shall be known and may be cited as
9 the "Naturopathic Doctors Licensing Act."

10
11 2. (New section) As used in this act:

12 "Board" means the State Board of Naturopathic Examiners
13 established pursuant to section 3 of this act.

14 "Device" means an appliance, apparatus, or instrument
15 administered or dispensed to a patient by a naturopathic doctor.

16 "Director" means the Director of the Division of Consumer
17 Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety.

18 "Dispense" means the delivery by a naturopathic doctor of a
19 natural substance, drug, or device to a patient and only for a
20 condition being diagnosed or treated by that doctor, except for free
21 samples packaged for individual use by licensed manufacturers or
22 repackagers, and includes the prescribing, administering,
23 packaging, labeling, and security necessary to prepare and
24 safeguard the natural substance, drug, or device for delivery to the
25 treating doctor's own patient.

26 "Natural substance" means a homeopathic, botanical, or
27 nutritional supplement that does not require a prescription by State
28 or federal law before it is dispensed, but is prescribed to treat a
29 medical condition diagnosed by a naturopathic doctor.

30 "Naturopathic doctor" means any person licensed as a
31 naturopathic doctor pursuant to the provisions of this act.

32 "Naturopathic medicine" means a distinct and comprehensive
33 system of primary health practiced by a naturopathic doctor for the
34 diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of human health conditions,
35 injuries, and disease.

36
37 3. (New section) a. There is created within the Division of
38 Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety the
39 State Board of Naturopathic Examiners. The board shall consist of
40 nine members who are residents of the State, six of whom shall be,
41 except for the members first appointed, licensed naturopathic
42 doctors under the provisions of this act and shall have been actively
43 engaged in the practice of naturopathic medicine for at least five
44 years immediately preceding their appointment, two of whom shall
45 be public members and one of whom shall be a State executive

**EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 department member appointed pursuant to the provisions of
2 P.L.1972, c.60 (C.45:1-2.1 et seq.).

3 b. The Governor shall appoint each member, other than the
4 State executive department member, with the advice and consent of
5 the Senate. The Governor shall appoint each member, other than the
6 State executive department member, for a term of three years,
7 except that of the naturopathic doctors first appointed, two shall
8 serve for terms of three years, two shall serve for terms of two years
9 and two shall serve for a term of one year. Each member shall hold
10 office until his successor has been qualified. Any vacancy in the
11 membership of the board shall be filled for the unexpired term only
12 in the manner provided for the original appointment. No member of
13 the board, other than the State executive department member, shall
14 serve more than two successive terms in addition to any unexpired
15 term to which he has been appointed.

16 c. Members of the board shall be compensated and reimbursed
17 for expenses and provided with office and meeting facilities
18 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1977, c.285 (C.45:1-2.5).

19

20 4. (New section) The board shall:

- 21 a. Establish criteria and standards for licensure;
- 22 b. Review the qualification of applicants for licensure;
- 23 c. Adopt a code of ethics;
- 24 d. Ensure proper conduct and standards of practice;
- 25 e. Issue and renew licenses pursuant to this act;
- 26 f. Adopt rules and regulations pursuant to the "Administrative
27 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) as it may
28 deem necessary to perform its duties under, and to enforce the
29 provisions of, this act;
- 30 g. Establish standards for continuing education;
- 31 h. Suspend, revoke, or decline to renew licenses of
32 naturopathic doctors pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1978, c.73
33 (C.45:1-14 et seq.);
- 34 i. Maintain a record of every naturopathic doctor licensed in
35 this State, and the date and number of his license, and publish a list
36 of the names and addresses of all licensees annually; and
- 37 j. Establish fees for applications for licensure, examinations,
38 initial licensure, renewals, late renewals, temporary licenses,
39 provisional licenses, and for duplication of lost licenses, pursuant to
40 section 2 of P.L.1974, c.46 (C.45:1-3.2).

41

42 5. (New section) a. No person shall practice nor present
43 himself as able to practice naturopathic medicine unless the person
44 possesses a valid license to practice naturopathic medicine in
45 accordance with the provisions of this act.

46 b. No person shall use the titles or designations "doctor of
47 naturopathic medicine," "doctor of naturopathy," or "naturopathic
48 physician," "naturopathic doctor," "licensed naturopath,"
49 "naturopath," nor the abbreviations "N.M.D." or "N.D." or any

1 other title or designation which indicates or implies that he is a
2 naturopathic doctor unless that person possesses a valid license to
3 practice naturopathic medicine in accordance with the provisions of
4 this act.

5
6 6. (New section) The provisions of this act shall not apply to:

7 a. the practices of other persons and health care providers
8 licensed by appropriate agencies of the State of New Jersey,
9 provided that their duties are consistent with the accepted standards
10 of the person's profession and the person does not present himself
11 as a licensed naturopathic doctor which otherwise would require
12 licensure by the board;

13 b. a person employed by the federal government in the practice
14 of naturopathic medicine while the person is engaged in the
15 performance of duties prescribed by laws and regulations of the
16 United States;

17 c. a person who makes recommendations regarding, or is
18 engaged in, the sale of food, extracts of food, nutraceuticals,
19 vitamins, amino acids, minerals, enzymes, botanicals and their
20 extracts, botanical medicines, homeopathic medicines, dietary
21 supplements, and nonprescription drugs or other products of nature,
22 the sale of which is not otherwise prohibited under State or federal
23 law;

24 d. a person who is licensed in another state or possession of the
25 United States or the District of Columbia to practice naturopathic
26 medicine if the person is incidentally called into this State for
27 consultation with a licensed naturopathic doctor; or

28 e. a student enrolled in an approved naturopathic medical
29 program whose services are performed in accordance with a course
30 of instruction under the supervision of a naturopathic doctor.

31
32 7. (New section) a. The board shall approve a naturopathic
33 medical education program accredited by the Council on
34 Naturopathic Medical Education or an equivalent federally
35 recognized accrediting body for the naturopathic medical profession
36 that has the following minimum requirements:

37 (1) admission requirements that include a minimum of three-
38 quarters of the credits required for a bachelor's degree from a
39 regionally accredited college or university or the equivalency, as
40 determined by the board; and

41 (2) program requirements for its degree or diploma of a
42 minimum of 4,100 total hours in basic and clinical sciences,
43 naturopathic philosophy, naturopathic modalities, and naturopathic
44 medicine, with not less than 2,500 of those hours consisting of
45 academic instruction, and not less than 1,200 of those hours
46 consisting of supervised clinical training approved by the
47 naturopathic medical school.

48 b. To be approved by the board, a naturopathic medical
49 education program in the United States shall offer graduate-level

1 full-time studies and training leading to the degree of Doctor of
2 Naturopathy or Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine. The program
3 shall be offered at an institution, or part of an institution, of higher
4 education that is either accredited or is a candidate for accreditation
5 by a regional institutional accrediting agency recognized by the
6 United States Secretary of Education and the Council on
7 Naturopathic Medical Education, or an equivalently federally
8 recognized accrediting body for naturopathic doctor education.

9 c. To qualify as an approved naturopathic medical school, a
10 naturopathic medical education program located in the United
11 States or Canada shall offer a full-time, doctoral-level, naturopathic
12 medical education program with its graduates being eligible to
13 apply to the board for licensure and to the North American Board of
14 Naturopathic Examiners that administers the naturopathic licensing
15 examination.

16
17 8. (New section) Each person desiring to obtain a license to
18 practice naturopathic medicine shall apply to the board upon the
19 form and in the manner the board prescribes and shall furnish
20 satisfactory evidence to the board that the applicant:

21 a. Is at least 21 years of age;

22 b. Is of good moral character;

23 c. Has received a degree in naturopathic medicine from an
24 approved naturopathic medical school where the degree
25 substantially meets the educational requirements specified in
26 section 7 of this act; and

27 d. Has passed the Naturopathic Physicians Licensing
28 Examination (NPLEX) or an equivalent approved by the North
29 American Board of Naturopathic Examiners.

30
31 9. (New section) a. A naturopathic doctor may order and
32 perform physical and laboratory examinations for diagnostic
33 purposes, including, but not limited to, phlebotomy, clinical
34 laboratory tests, speculum examinations, orificial examinations, and
35 physiological function tests.

36 b. A naturopathic doctor may order diagnostic imaging studies,
37 including X-ray, ultrasound, mammogram, bone densitometry, and
38 others, consistent with naturopathic training, as determined by the
39 board, but shall refer the studies to an appropriately licensed health
40 care professional to conduct the study and interpret the results.

41 c. A naturopathic doctor may dispense, administer, order and
42 prescribe, or perform the following:

43 (1) Food, extracts of food, nutraceuticals, vitamins, amino acids,
44 minerals, enzymes, botanicals and their extracts, botanical
45 medicines, homeopathic medicines, all dietary supplements, and
46 nonprescription drugs;

47 (2) Hot or cold hydrotherapy, naturopathic physical medicine
48 inclusive of the manual use of massage, stretching, resistance, or
49 joint play examination including high-velocity low-amplitude

1 movement at or beyond the end range of normal joint motion,
2 electromagnetic energy, colon hydrotherapy, and therapeutic
3 exercise;

4 (3) Devices, including but not limited to, therapeutic devices,
5 barrier contraception, and durable medical equipment;

6 (4) Health education and health counseling;

7 (5) Repair and care incidental to superficial lacerations and
8 abrasions, except for suturing;

9 (6) Removal of foreign bodies located in the superficial tissues;
10 and

11 (7) Prescription drugs that are consistent with the education and
12 training of a naturopathic doctor.

13 d. A naturopathic doctor may utilize routes of administration
14 that include oral, nasal, auricular, ocular, rectal, vaginal,
15 transdermal, intradermal, subcutaneous, intraarticular, intravenous,
16 and intramuscular.

17 e. The board may establish regulations regarding ocular or
18 intravenous routes of administration that are consistent with the
19 education and training of a naturopathic doctor.

20

21 10. (New section) A naturopathic doctor may dispense a natural
22 substance, drug, or device to a patient for a condition being
23 diagnosed or treated by the doctor if:

24 a. The natural substance, drug, or device is dispensed and
25 properly labeled with the following dispenser information:

26 (1) The dispensing doctor's name, address, and telephone
27 number and a prescription number or other method of identifying
28 the prescription;

29 (2) The date the natural substance, drug, or device is dispensed;

30 (3) The patient's name; and

31 (4) The name and strength of the natural substance, drug, or
32 device, directions for proper and appropriate use and any cautionary
33 statements for the natural substance, drug, or device, and if a
34 generic drug is dispensed, the manufacturer's name.

35 b. The dispensing doctor enters into the patient's medical
36 record the name and strength of the natural substance, drug, or
37 device dispensed, the date the natural substance, drug, or device is
38 dispensed and the therapeutic reason for which it is dispensed.

39

40 11. (New section) a. A license as a naturopathic doctor shall be
41 issued for a period of two years, and may be renewed for additional
42 two-year periods upon submission by the holder of a renewal
43 application on a form prescribed by the board, completion by the
44 holder of any requirements for renewal established by the board and
45 payment of the renewal fee prescribed by the board.

46 b. If a renewal fee is not paid by the expiration date, the license
47 shall automatically expire, but may be renewed within two years of
48 its expiration date on payment to the board of a sum determined by

1 it for each year or part thereof during which the license was expired
2 and an additional restoration fee.

3
4 12. (New section) Upon receipt of a fee and a written
5 application on forms provided by it, the board shall issue a license
6 without examination to a naturopathic doctor who holds a valid
7 license issued by another state or possession of the United States or
8 the District of Columbia that has education and experience
9 requirements substantially equivalent to the requirements of this
10 act.

11
12 13. (New section) a. The State Board of Naturopathic Medicine
13 shall establish a naturopathic childbirth attendance advisory
14 committee to issue recommendations concerning medical education
15 and training for the specialty practice of naturopathic childbirth
16 attendance. The advisory committee shall be composed of one
17 licensed medical doctor with a clinical specialty or board
18 certification in obstetrics, one certified nurse midwife or certified
19 midwife, and two licensed naturopathic doctors with clinical
20 experience in naturopathic childbirth attendance.

21 b. A naturopathic doctor may not practice naturopathic
22 childbirth attendance without first obtaining a certificate of special
23 competency in naturopathic childbirth attendance in accordance
24 with the provisions of this section.

25 c. Upon payment of the required fee, the State Board of
26 Naturopathic Medicine shall issue a certificate of special
27 competency in naturopathic childbirth attendance to a licensed
28 naturopathic doctor who meets the requirements prescribed by the
29 board to practice naturopathic childbirth attendance.

30 d. The naturopathic childbirth attendance advisory committee
31 may adopt rules applicable to special competency certification
32 which:

33 (1) Establish medical education, training, and qualifications
34 necessary for certification.

35 (2) Limit or restrict the specialty practice.

36 (3) Define the scope of the specialty practice.

37 (4) Establish procedures for maintaining certification.

38
39 14. Section 1 of P.L.1971, c.60 (C.45:1-2.1) is amended to read
40 as follows:

41 1. The provisions of this act shall apply to the following boards
42 and commissions: the New Jersey State Board of Accountancy, the
43 New Jersey State Board of Architects, the New Jersey State Board
44 of Cosmetology and Hairstyling, the Board of Examiners of
45 Electrical Contractors, the New Jersey State Board of Dentistry, the
46 State Board of Mortuary Science of New Jersey, the State Board of
47 Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, the State Board of
48 Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners, the State Board of
49 Medical Examiners, the New Jersey Board of Nursing, the New

1 Jersey State Board of Optometrists, the State Board of Examiners of
2 Ophthalmic Dispensers and Ophthalmic Technicians, the Board of
3 Pharmacy, the State Board of Professional Planners, the State Board
4 of Psychological Examiners, the State Board of Examiners of
5 Master Plumbers, the New Jersey Real Estate Commission, the
6 State Board of Court Reporting, the State Board of Veterinary
7 Medical Examiners, the Radiologic Technology Board of
8 Examiners, the Acupuncture Examining Board, the State Board of
9 Chiropractic Examiners, the State Board of Respiratory Care, the
10 State Real Estate Appraiser Board, the State Board of Social Work
11 Examiners, the State Board of Examiners of Heating, Ventilating,
12 Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors, the Elevator,
13 Escalator, and Moving Walkway Mechanics Licensing Board, the
14 State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, the Orthotics and
15 Prosthetics Board of Examiners, the New Jersey Cemetery Board,
16 the State Board of Polysomnography, the New Jersey Board of
17 Massage and Bodywork Therapy, the Genetic Counseling Advisory
18 Committee, the State Board of Dietetics and Nutrition, the State
19 Board of Naturopathic Medicine, and any other entity hereafter
20 created under Title 45 to license or otherwise regulate a profession
21 or occupation.

22 (cf: P.L.2019, c.331, s.16)

23

24 15. Section 2 of P.L.1971, c.60 (C.45:1-2.2) is amended to read
25 as follows:

26 2. a. All members of the several professional boards and
27 commissions shall be appointed by the Governor in the manner
28 prescribed by law; except in appointing members other than those
29 appointed pursuant to subsection b. or subsection c., the Governor
30 shall give due consideration to, but shall not be bound by,
31 recommendations submitted by the appropriate professional
32 organizations of this State.

33 b. In addition to the membership otherwise prescribed by law,
34 the Governor shall appoint in the same manner as presently
35 prescribed by law for the appointment of members, two additional
36 members to represent the interests of the public, to be known as
37 public members, to each of the following boards and commissions:
38 the New Jersey State Board of Accountancy, the New Jersey State
39 Board of Architects, the New Jersey State Board of Cosmetology
40 and Hairstyling, the New Jersey State Board of Dentistry, the State
41 Board of Mortuary Science of New Jersey, the State Board of
42 Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, the State Board of
43 Medical Examiners, the New Jersey Board of Nursing, the New
44 Jersey State Board of Optometrists, the State Board of Examiners of
45 Ophthalmic Dispensers and Ophthalmic Technicians, the Board of
46 Pharmacy, the State Board of Professional Planners, the State Board
47 of Psychological Examiners, the New Jersey Real Estate
48 Commission, the State Board of Court Reporting, the State Board of
49 Social Work Examiners, the Elevator, Escalator, and Moving

1 Walkway Mechanics Licensing Board, the State Board of
2 Naturopathic Medicine, and the State Board of Veterinary Medical
3 Examiners, and one additional public member to each of the
4 following boards: the Board of Examiners of Electrical Contractors,
5 the State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners, the
6 State Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers, and the State Real
7 Estate Appraiser Board. Each public member shall be appointed for
8 the term prescribed for the other members of the board or
9 commission and until the appointment of his successor. Vacancies
10 shall be filled for the unexpired term only. The Governor may
11 remove any such public member after hearing, for misconduct,
12 incompetency, neglect of duty or for any other sufficient cause.

13 No public member appointed pursuant to this section shall have
14 any association or relationship with the profession or a member
15 thereof regulated by the board of which he is a member, where such
16 association or relationship would prevent such public member from
17 representing the interest of the public. Such a relationship includes
18 a relationship with members of one's immediate family; and such
19 association includes membership in the profession regulated by the
20 board. To receive services rendered in a customary client
21 relationship will not preclude a prospective public member from
22 appointment. This paragraph shall not apply to individuals who are
23 public members of boards on the effective date of this act.

24 It shall be the responsibility of the Attorney General to insure
25 that no person with the aforementioned association or relationship
26 or any other questionable or potential conflict of interest shall be
27 appointed to serve as a public member of any board regulated by
28 this section.

29 Where a board is required to examine the academic and
30 professional credentials of an applicant for licensure or to test such
31 applicant orally, no public member appointed pursuant to this
32 section shall participate in such examination process; provided,
33 however, that public members shall be given notice of and may be
34 present at all such examination processes and deliberations
35 concerning the results thereof, and, provided further, that public
36 members may participate in the development and establishment of
37 the procedures and criteria for such examination processes.

38 c. The Governor shall designate a department in the Executive
39 Branch of the State Government which is closely related to the
40 profession or occupation regulated by each of the boards or
41 commissions designated in section 1 of P.L.1971, c.60 (C.45:1-2.1)
42 and shall appoint the head of such department, or the holder of a
43 designated office or position in such department, to serve without
44 compensation at the pleasure of the Governor as a member of such
45 board or commission.

46 d. A majority of the voting members of such boards or
47 commissions shall constitute a quorum thereof and no action of any
48 such board or commission shall be taken except upon the

1 affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the entire board or
2 commission.

3 (cf: P.L.2012, c.71, s.14)

4

5 16. Section 1 of P.L.1974, c.46 (C.45:1-3.1) is amended to read
6 as follows:

7 1. The provisions of this act shall apply to the following boards
8 and commissions: the New Jersey State Board of Accountancy, the
9 New Jersey State Board of Architects, the New Jersey State Board
10 of Cosmetology and Hairstyling, the Board of Examiners of
11 Electrical Contractors, the New Jersey State Board of Dentistry, the
12 State Board of Mortuary Science of New Jersey, the State Board of
13 Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, the State Board of
14 Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners, the State Board of
15 Medical Examiners, the New Jersey Board of Nursing, the New
16 Jersey State Board of Optometrists, the State Board of Examiners of
17 Ophthalmic Dispensers and Ophthalmic Technicians, the Board of
18 Pharmacy, the State Board of Professional Planners, the State Board
19 of Psychological Examiners, the State Board of Examiners of
20 Master Plumbers, the State Board of Court Reporting, the State
21 Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, the Radiologic
22 Technology Board of Examiners, the Acupuncture Examining
23 Board, the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, the State Board
24 of Respiratory Care, the State Real Estate Appraiser Board, the New
25 Jersey Cemetery Board, the State Board of Social Work Examiners,
26 the State Board of Examiners of Heating, Ventilating, Air
27 Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors, the Elevator, Escalator,
28 and Moving Walkway Mechanics Licensing Board, the State Board
29 of Physical Therapy Examiners, the State Board of
30 Polysomnography, the Orthotics and Prosthetics Board of
31 Examiners, the New Jersey Board of Massage and Bodywork
32 Therapy, the Genetic Counseling Advisory Committee, the State
33 Board of Dietetics and Nutrition, the State Board of Naturopathic
34 Medicine, and any other entity hereafter created under Title 45 to
35 license or otherwise regulate a profession or occupation.

36 (cf: P.L.2019, c.331, s.17)

37

38 17. Section 2 of P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-15) is amended to read
39 as follows:

40 2. The provisions of this act shall apply to the following boards
41 and all professions or occupations regulated by, through or with the
42 advice of those boards: the New Jersey State Board of
43 Accountancy, the New Jersey State Board of Architects, the New
44 Jersey State Board of Cosmetology and Hairstyling, the Board of
45 Examiners of Electrical Contractors, the New Jersey State Board of
46 Dentistry, the State Board of Mortuary Science of New Jersey, the
47 State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, the
48 State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners, the State
49 Board of Medical Examiners, the New Jersey Board of Nursing, the

1 New Jersey State Board of Optometrists, the State Board of
2 Examiners of Ophthalmic Dispensers and Ophthalmic Technicians,
3 the Board of Pharmacy, the State Board of Professional Planners,
4 the State Board of Psychological Examiners, the State Board of
5 Examiners of Master Plumbers, the State Board of Court Reporting,
6 the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, the State Board
7 of Chiropractic Examiners, the State Board of Respiratory Care, the
8 State Real Estate Appraiser Board, the State Board of Social Work
9 Examiners, the State Board of Examiners of Heating, Ventilating,
10 Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors, the Elevator,
11 Escalator, and Moving Walkway Mechanics Licensing Board, the
12 State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, the State Board of
13 Polysomnography, the Professional Counselor Examiners
14 Committee, the New Jersey Cemetery Board, the Orthotics and
15 Prosthetics Board of Examiners, the Occupational Therapy
16 Advisory Council, the Electrologists Advisory Committee, the
17 Acupuncture Advisory Committee, the Alcohol and Drug Counselor
18 Committee, the Athletic Training Advisory Committee, the
19 Certified Psychoanalysts Advisory Committee, the Fire Alarm,
20 Burglar Alarm, and Locksmith Advisory Committee, the Home
21 Inspection Advisory Committee, the Interior Design Examination
22 and Evaluation Committee, the Hearing Aid Dispensers Examining
23 Committee, the Perfusionists Advisory Committee, the Physician
24 Assistant Advisory Committee, the Audiology and Speech-
25 Language Pathology Advisory Committee, the New Jersey Board of
26 Massage and Bodywork Therapy, the Genetic Counseling Advisory
27 Committee, the State Board of Dietetics and Nutrition, the State
28 Board of Naturopathic Medicine, and any other entity hereafter
29 created under Title 45 to license or otherwise regulate a profession
30 or occupation.

31 (cf: P.L.2019, c.331, s.18)

32
33 18. This act shall take effect immediately, except that section 5
34 shall take effect 360 days following the appointment and
35 qualification of the board members, and that the director and board
36 may take such anticipatory action as may be necessary to effectuate
37 that provision of the act.

40 STATEMENT

41
42 This bill provides for the licensure of naturopathic doctors and
43 establishes the State Board of Naturopathic Examiners in the
44 Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public
45 Safety. The board would consist of nine members who are residents
46 of the State, six of whom would be, except for the members first
47 appointed, licensed naturopathic doctors who have been actively
48 engaged in the practice of naturopathic medicine for at least five
49 years immediately preceding their appointment; two of whom

1 would be public members; and one of whom would be a State
2 executive department member.

3 The board would:

- 4 (1) establish criteria and standards for licensure;
- 5 (2) review the qualification of applicants for licensure;
- 6 (3) adopt a code of ethics;
- 7 (4) ensure proper conduct and standards of practice;
- 8 (5) issue and renew licenses pursuant to the bill;
- 9 (6) adopt rules and regulations to enforce the provisions of the
10 bill;
- 11 (7) establish standards for continuing education;
- 12 (8) suspend, revoke, or decline to renew licenses of naturopathic
13 doctors;
- 14 (9) maintain a record of every naturopathic doctor licensed in
15 this State, and the date and number of his license, and publish a list
16 of the names and addresses of all licensees annually; and
- 17 (10) establish fees for applications for licensure, examinations,
18 initial licensure, renewals, late renewals, temporary licenses,
19 provisional licenses, and for duplication of lost licenses.

20 The bill also provides that no person shall be permitted to
21 practice or present himself as able to practice naturopathic medicine
22 unless that person possesses a valid license. The board shall only
23 issue a license to those who the board determines to be qualified
24 and have completed the board's requirements for education, training
25 and experience. The license shall be issued for two years and may
26 be renewed for additional two year periods.

27 To be eligible for licensure as a naturopathic doctor, a person
28 must be at least 21 years of age and be of good moral character and
29 fulfill the following requirements:

30 a. Receive a degree in naturopathic medicine from an approved
31 naturopathic medical school and meet educational requirements as
32 specified in the bill. The board shall approve a naturopathic
33 medical education program accredited by the Council on
34 Naturopathic Medical Education or an equivalent federally
35 recognized accrediting body for the naturopathic medical profession
36 that has the following minimum requirements:

37 (1) admission requirements that include a minimum of three-
38 quarters of the credits required for a bachelor's degree from a
39 regionally accredited college or university or the equivalency, as
40 determined by the board; and

41 (2) program requirements for its degree or diploma of a
42 minimum of 4,100 total hours in basic and clinical sciences,
43 naturopathic philosophy, naturopathic modalities, and naturopathic
44 medicine, with not less than 2,500 of those hours consisting of
45 academic instruction, and not less than 1,200 of those hours
46 consisting of supervised clinical training approved by the
47 naturopathic medical school; and

1 b. Have passed the Naturopathic Physicians Licensing
2 Examination (NPLEX) or an equivalent approved by the North
3 American Board of Naturopathic Examiners.

4 As provided in the bill, a naturopathic doctor may order and
5 perform physical and laboratory examinations for diagnostic
6 purposes, including, but not limited to, phlebotomy, clinical
7 laboratory tests, speculum examinations, orificial examinations, and
8 physiological function tests. A naturopathic doctor may also order
9 diagnostic imaging studies, including X-ray, ultrasound,
10 mammogram, bone densitometry, and others, consistent with
11 naturopathic training, as determined by the board, but shall refer the
12 studies to an appropriately licensed health care professional to
13 conduct the study and interpret the results. In addition, a
14 naturopathic doctor may dispense, administer, order, and prescribe
15 or perform the following:

16 (1) food, extracts of food, nutraceuticals, vitamins, amino acids,
17 minerals, enzymes, botanicals and their extracts, botanical
18 medicines, homeopathic medicines, all dietary supplements, and
19 nonprescription drugs;

20 (2) hot or cold hydrotherapy; naturopathic physical medicine
21 inclusive of the manual use of massage, stretching, resistance, or
22 joint play examination but exclusive of small amplitude movement
23 at or beyond the end range of normal joint motion; electromagnetic
24 energy; colon hydrotherapy; and therapeutic exercise;

25 (3) devices, including but not limited to, therapeutic devices,
26 barrier contraception, and durable medical equipment;

27 (4) health education and health counseling;

28 (5) repair and care incidental to superficial lacerations and
29 abrasions, except for suturing;

30 (6) removal of foreign bodies located in the superficial tissues;
31 and

32 (7) prescription drugs that are consistent with the education and
33 training of a naturopathic doctor.

34 The bill also stipulates that a naturopathic doctor may utilize
35 routes of administration that include oral, nasal, auricular, ocular,
36 rectal, vaginal, transdermal, intradermal, subcutaneous, intravenous,
37 and intramuscular. Furthermore, the board may establish
38 regulations regarding ocular or intravenous routes of administration
39 that are consistent with the education and training of a naturopathic
40 doctor.

41 As defined in the bill, "naturopathic medicine" means a distinct
42 and comprehensive system of primary health practiced by a
43 naturopathic doctor for the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of
44 human health conditions, injuries, and disease.

45 The bill establishes a naturopathic childbirth attendance advisory
46 committee to issue recommendations concerning the medical
47 education and training for the specialty practice of naturopathic
48 childbirth attendance. The advisory committee shall be composed
49 of one licensed medical doctor with clinical specialty or board

1 certification in obstetrics, one certified nurse midwife or certified
2 midwife, and two licensed naturopathic doctors with clinical
3 experience in naturopathic childbirth attendance. Under the bill, a
4 naturopathic doctor may not practice naturopathic childbirth
5 attendance without first obtaining a certificate of special
6 competency in naturopathic childbirth attendance.

7 Finally, the bill amends certain of the general provisions
8 regulating the several professions and occupations to include the
9 new State Board of Naturopathic Examiners.