
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO NATUROPATHIC PHYSICIANS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Section 455-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new definition to be appropriately inserted
3 and to read as follows:

4 "Continuing education courses" means courses approved by a
5 professional association or organization representing a licensed
6 profession whose program objectives are related to naturopathic
7 medicine; provided that the professional association or
8 organization is approved by the board."

9 SECTION 2. Section 455-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 amended to read as follows:

11 **"§455-8 License to practice; biennial registration[-];**
12 **continuing education.** (a) Licenses to practice naturopathic
13 medicine shall be issued by the board to those who qualify
14 according to this chapter. Naturopathic physicians licensed
15 under this chapter shall observe and be subject to all state
16 requirements relative to reporting births and all matters
17 pertaining to the public health with equal rights and
18 obligations as physicians, surgeons, and practitioners of other



1 schools of medicine. These equal rights shall apply to all
2 matters of public health, including the performance of medical
3 examinations and evaluations.

4 (b) Every licensee shall renew the licensee's license on
5 or before December 31 of each odd-numbered year. Failure to
6 renew the license on or before December 31 of each odd-numbered
7 year shall automatically constitute a forfeiture of the license;
8 provided that the license shall be restored upon written
9 application therefor together with payment of the renewal fee,
10 all delinquent fees, [~~and~~] a penalty fee[-], and satisfactory
11 proof of compliance with the continuing education requirements
12 set forth in this section.

13 (c) Beginning with the December 31, 2017, renewal and
14 prior to every biennial renewal thereafter, each licensee shall
15 complete at least thirty-five hours of continuing education
16 courses within the two-year period preceding the renewal date;
17 provided that a licensee shall complete a minimum of fifteen
18 hours of continuing education courses in pharmacology within
19 every licensing biennium.

20 (d) A licensee who graduated from a school, university, or
21 college of naturopathic medicine pursuant to section 455-3
22 within one year of the licensee's first renewal period shall not



1 be subject to the continuing education requirement for the first
2 license renewal.

3 (e) Each licensee shall be responsible for maintaining the
4 licensee's continuing education records, including but not
5 limited to certificates of completion of the continuing
6 education courses.

7 (f) Prior to December 31 of each odd-numbered year, each
8 licensee shall:

9 (1) Complete the renewal form prescribed by the board and
10 certify that the licensee has complied with the
11 continuing education requirement of this section for
12 the applicable renewal period; and

13 (2) Submit evidence of completion of the continuing
14 education courses taken during the applicable renewal
15 period to the board, including but not limited to
16 certificates of completion. At a minimum,
17 documentation shall contain the following information:

18 (A) Name of the licensee;

19 (B) Title of the continuing education course taken;

20 (C) Date that the continuing education course was
21 taken;



- 1 (D) Name of the professional association or
2 organization that approved the continuing
3 education course;
- 4 (E) Number of hours for the course; and
- 5 (F) Number of hours for the course in pharmacology."

6 SECTION 3. Section 455-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

8 "(a) In addition to any other actions authorized by law,
9 the board shall have the power to deny, revoke, suspend, or
10 refuse to renew any license to practice naturopathic medicine
11 applied for or issued by the board in accordance with this
12 chapter, and to fine or otherwise discipline a licensee for any
13 cause authorized by law, including but not limited to the
14 following:

15 (1) Failing to meet or maintain the conditions and
16 requirements necessary to qualify for the issuance of
17 a license;

18 ~~[(1)]~~ (2) Procuring, or aiding or abetting in procuring, a
19 criminal abortion;

20 ~~[(2)]~~ (3) Employing any person to solicit patients;

21 ~~[(3)]~~ (4) Obtaining a fee on the assurance that a
22 manifestly incurable disease can be permanently cured;



- 1 ~~[(4)]~~ (5) Betraying a patient's confidence;
- 2 ~~[(5)]~~ (6) Making any untruthful and improbable statement in
3 advertising one's naturopathic practice or business;
- 4 ~~[(6)]~~ (7) False, fraudulent, or deceptive advertising;
- 5 ~~[(7)]~~ (8) Being habituated to the excessive use of drugs or
6 alcohol; or being addicted to, dependent on, or an
7 habitual user of a narcotic, barbiturate, amphetamine,
8 hallucinogen, or other drug having similar effects;
- 9 ~~[(8)]~~ (9) Practicing naturopathic medicine while the
10 ability to practice is impaired by alcohol, drug,
11 physical disability, or mental instability;
- 12 ~~[(9)]~~ (10) Procuring a license through fraud,
13 misrepresentation, or deceit or knowingly permitting
14 an unlicensed person to perform activities requiring a
15 license;
- 16 ~~[(10)]~~ (11) Professional misconduct or gross carelessness or
17 manifest incapacity in the practice of naturopathic
18 medicine;
- 19 ~~[(11)]~~ (12) Conduct or practice contrary to recognized
20 standard of ethics of the naturopathic profession;
- 21 ~~[(12)]~~ (13) Using medical service or treatment which is
22 inappropriate or unnecessary;



- 1 [~~(13)~~] (14) Submitting to or filing with the board any
2 notice, statement, or other document required under
3 this chapter which is false or untrue or contains any
4 material misstatement of fact~~[+]~~, including any false
5 certification of compliance with the continuing
6 education requirement specified under section 455-8;
- 7 [~~(14)~~] (15) Failure to report to the board any disciplinary
8 action taken against the licensee in another
9 jurisdiction within thirty days after the disciplinary
10 action becomes final;
- 11 [~~(15)~~] (16) Using the title "physician" without clearly
12 identifying oneself as being a naturopathic physician;
- 13 [~~(16)~~] (17) Prescribing, administering, and dispensing
14 naturopathic formulary that are not included in the
15 formulary established by the board under section 455-
16 6; and
- 17 [~~(17)~~] (18) Violation of any provision of this chapter or
18 rules adopted under this chapter."

19 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
20 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

21 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.

Report Title:

Naturopathic Medicine; Naturopathic Physicians; Continuing Education

Description:

Requires naturopathic physicians to complete a minimum of thirty-five hours of continuing education courses, including a minimum of fifteen hours of pharmacology, during each licensing renewal biennium, beginning December 31, 2017. Effective 07/01/2050. (SD2)

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