

**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
FISCAL NOTE**

BILL NO. House Bill 516

PRINTER NO. 4043

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

State Board of Medicine Restricted Account

DATE INTRODUCED

February 23, 2015

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Mustio

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

House Bill 516 establishes the Naturopathic Doctor Registration Act to register doctors of naturopathic medicine under the State Board of Medicine (Board).

An applicant registering as a naturopathic doctor must meet all of the following requirements:

- Have a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited or preaccredited college or university or the equivalent;
- Complete a minimum of 4,100 total credit hours in basic and clinical sciences, naturopathic philosophy, naturopathic modalities and naturopathic medicine. Not less than 2,500 hours shall consist of academic instruction and not less than 1,200 hours shall consist of supervised clinical training approved by a naturopathic medical school;
- Pass the North American Board of Naturopathic Examiner’s competency-based national naturopathic licensing examination or has graduated prior to 1986 and passed the state naturopathic licensing examination.
- Be certified in CPR;
- Be of good moral character; and
- Submit an application and fee determined by the Board

Successful applicants will receive a certificate of registration from the Board and be required to renew the registration every two years. Individuals not meeting the qualifications are prohibited from using the title “naturopathic doctor” or “doctor of naturopathic medicine”.

Naturopathic doctors may be subject to disciplinary action by the Board if they:

- Fail to demonstrate the necessary qualifications or standards for registration;
- Make misleading, deceptive, untrue or fraudulent representations in naturopathic medical practice, or practice fraud in obtaining a registration or in obtaining admission to a medical college;
- Are convicted of a felony or misdemeanor related to naturopathic medicine or receiving probation without verdict, disposition in lieu of a trial or an ARD in disposition of felony charges;

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- Have registration or authorization to practice naturopathic medicine revoked or suspended or have disciplinary action taken or a registration that is refused, revoked or suspended by another proper licensing authority;
- Are unable to practice due to illness, drug or alcohol addiction, conviction of a felonious act related to a controlled substance, or becoming mentally incapacitated;
- Violate the regulations or order of the Board;
- Knowingly maintain a professional connection with someone violating the law or regulations;
- Are guilty of immoral or unprofessional conduct;
- Acting in a manner that is an immediate and clear danger to public health and safety;
- Acting outside the scope of their registration; or
- Make false or deceptive registration with the Board.

Registrations that have been revoked may not be reinstated for a minimum of five years. At that time, an individual may reapply for registration and meet all of the necessary qualifications. If an individual is convicted of a felony, they must wait ten years to reapply for registration, meet all necessary qualifications, show significant rehabilitation progress, and not be of substantial risk to patient health and safety.

The Board may levy fines up to \$1,000 for violations of the act.

This legislation shall take effect January 1, 2018.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Department of State (Department) anticipates having to increase personnel for the Board and to the Department's Legal Office to manage the increased workload, including administrative staff, investigators, an attorney, and other legal staff. Any new costs to the Board would be offset with biennial registration fees from the new licensees as provided for in the legislation. The Department anticipates the registration of 100 naturopathic doctors at a biennial fee of approximately \$7,300. Enactment of this legislation would have no adverse fiscal impact on the General Fund.