
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 693

Session of
1985

INTRODUCED BY STAUFFER, BRIGHTBILL, ANDREZESKI AND LYNCH,
APRIL 16, 1985

REFERRED TO CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE,
APRIL 16, 1985

AN ACT

1 Regulating the right to practice acupuncture; requiring the
2 registration of acupuncturists; and providing a penalty.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Acupuncture
7 Registration Act.

8 Section 2. Definitions.

9 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
10 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
11 context clearly indicates otherwise:

12 "Acupuncture." The stimulation of certain points on or near
13 the surface of the body by the insertion of needles to prevent
14 or alleviate the perception of pain or to normalize
15 physiological functions, including pain control, for the
16 treatment of certain diseases or dysfunctions of the body.

17 "Acupuncturists." An individual registered to practice

1 acupuncture by the State Board of Medical Education and
2 Licensure.

3 "Board." The State Board of Medical Education and Licensure.
4 Section 3. Regulation of the practice of acupuncture.

5 (a) Registration required.--Acupuncture may be practiced by
6 or at the direction and under the supervision of a physician. An
7 individual, including a physician, shall be registered with the
8 board before the individual may practice acupuncture in this
9 Commonwealth.

10 (b) Regulations to be promulgated.--The board shall
11 promulgate regulations requiring the proper training of
12 individuals, including physicians, before they may be registered
13 to practice acupuncture in this Commonwealth. Proper training
14 shall include to the extent determined by the board, education
15 or demonstrated experience in the practice of acupuncture.

16 (c) Practice to be under general supervision of a
17 physician.--An acupuncturist is not required to practice
18 acupuncture on the premises of the office of a physician,
19 however, an acupuncturist, other than a physician, is required
20 to practice acupuncture under the general supervision of a
21 physician. The supervising physician is not required to be
22 registered with the board as an acupuncturist. "General
23 supervision" means the supervising physician shall:

24 (1) Perform a medical diagnostic examination or review
25 the results of a recently performed medical diagnostic
26 examination with respect to any ailment or condition to be
27 treated by acupuncture prior to such treatment.

28 (2) Be personally available for consultation on the
29 premises or be available by telephone contact, chart review
30 or other means approved by the board.

1 (3) Place conditions and restrictions on the course of
2 treatment if required as a matter of sound medical practice.

3 (d) Section not applicable to dentists and podiatrists.--

4 This section shall not apply to a dentist performing acupuncture
5 in connection with the practice of dentistry or a podiatrist
6 performing acupuncture in a connection with the practice of
7 podiatry.

8 Section 4. Penalties.

9 Except as provided for in section 3(d), it shall be unlawful
10 for an individual to practice acupuncture in this Commonwealth
11 unless the individual is registered as an acupuncturist by the
12 board. An individual willfully violating the provisions of this
13 section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

14 Section 5. Effective date.

15 This act shall take effect immediately.