




LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH SERVICES

Alaska State Legislature
Division of Legal and Research Services
State Capitol, Juneau, AK 99801

(907) 465-3991 phone
(907) 465-3908 fax
research@legis.state.ak.us

Memorandum

TO: Representative Cathy Muñoz
FROM: Patricia Young, Manager 
DATE: December 17, 2010
RE: Naturopathic Physician Medical Boards
LRS Report 11.097

You wished to know which states oversee naturopathic doctors with a medical board specifically for naturopaths.

According to the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians, 15 states and the District of Columbia currently license naturopathic doctors. Among those, seven states have naturopathic medical boards. Another four have committees or advisory groups with memberships similar to those of boards. These committees and advisory groups make recommendations to medical boards that oversee a variety of medical disciplines.

Oversight of Naturopathic Doctors		
State	Regulating Body	Composition
Arizona	Naturopathic Board of Medical Examiners	7 members (ND-3, MD-1, public-1, secretary-1)
Connecticut	Board of Naturopathic Examiners	3 members (ND-2, public-1)
Hawaii	Board of Naturopathic Medicine	5 members (ND-3, public 2)
Idaho	Board of Naturopathic Medical Examiners	5 members (ND-4, public 1)
Montana	Alternative Health Care Board (covers Naturopathic Doctors and Midwives)	6 members (ND-2, Midwife-2, MD (obstetrics)-1, public-1)
Oregon	Board of Naturopathic Medicine	7 members (ND-5, public-2)
Utah	Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Board	5 members (ND-3, public 2)
California	Naturopathic Medicine Committee (Osteopathic Medical Board)	7 members (ND-3, MD-1, public-3)
Kansas	Naturopathic Advisory Council (Board of Healing Arts)	4 members (ND-3, DO [Osteopathic Doctor]-1)
Vermont	Naturopathic Physicians Advisors (Office of Professional Regulation)	2 members (ND-2)
Washington	Naturopath Advisory Committee (Health Systems Quality Assurance)	5 members (ND-3, public 2)

Sources: "Licensed States and Licensing Authorities," American Association of Naturopathic Physicians, and state agency websites.

Naturopathic doctors in Minnesota and in the District of Columbia are overseen by the boards of medicine—in Minnesota without an advisory group, and in D.C., with an advisory group that does not appear to be constituted by medical professionals. In the remaining three states—Alaska, Maine, and New Hampshire—naturopaths are overseen by licensing and certification personnel.

We hope this is helpful. If you have questions or need additional information, please let us know.