

Konrad Jackson

From: Motonaga, Gregg MD <gmotonaga@cpgh.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 2:16 PM
To: Sen. Jesse Bjorkman
Subject: SB 44

Dear Senator Bjorkman.

Your committee is considering SB 44 which expands the scope of practice of Naturopaths. I do not agree with the contents of SB 44 as written and feel that this would be an overreach of the government's role and your committee to expand the scope of practice for naturopaths.

First, I offer these links as background for what naturopathy is and how it is viewed by their own practitioners as well as by the mainstream medical community.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Naturopathy>

<https://www.nccih.nih.gov/health/naturopathy>

<https://aanmc.org/naturopathic-medicine/> - In this video presentation, the presenter discusses that people are looking for "solutions that are natural, that are diet and lifestyle based" and goes on to say that "naturopathic doctors can help inform people's choices".

<https://www.webmd.com/balance/guide/what-is-naturopathic-medicine>

Naturopathic practitioners should practice naturopathic medicine and not attempt to expand their practice into areas of allopathic or osteopathic medicine for the obvious reason that they would no longer be practicing naturopathic medicine. Using prescription medications (local anesthetics) to perform minor procedures for office procedures, administer vaccinations, and prescribing pharmaceuticals is not naturopathic medicine. It fundamentally should not be allowed through legislation.

Naturopathic practitioners wishing to practice allopathic medicine should further their education into the allopathic realm and become medical doctors. In other words, return to an allopathic medical school for a medical degree as opposed to expanding the scope of practice into a field that isn't captured or supported by their own definitions.

I would be happy to discuss in person with you.

Sincerely,
Gregg Motonaga, MD

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