

**HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 306(JUD)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Offered: 5/11/04

Referred: Today's Calendar

Sponsor(s): SENATORS SEEKINS, Dyson, Green

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to the practice of naturopathic medicine; and providing for an effective**  
2 **date."**

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 \* **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section  
5 to read:

6 LEGISLATIVE INTENT. The legislature finds that naturopathic physicians provide a  
7 viable complement to medical care in the state. It is the intent of the legislature to contribute  
8 to a better understanding of issues related to the safety and scope of the practice of  
9 naturopathy through the establishment of a task force on the scope of naturopathic practice.

10 \* **Sec. 2.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
11 read:

12 TASK FORCE ON NATUROPATHIC SCOPE OF PRACTICE. (a) There is  
13 established in the legislative branch the Task Force on Naturopathic Scope of Practice to  
14 address

1 (1) the comparable level of education and training of naturopaths and medical  
2 doctors;

3 (2) the appropriate scope of practice relating to the use of legend or  
4 prescription drugs by naturopaths;

5 (3) the appropriate scope of practice for non-pharmacological treatments by  
6 naturopaths, including minor surgery;

7 (4) the structure and operations of collaborative protocols and agreements;

8 (5) issues related to joint liability between collaborating practitioners; and

9 (6) other issues determined to be relevant by members of the task force.

10 (b) The task force established under (a) of this section shall consist of nine voting  
11 members. One member shall be a state senator appointed by the president of the senate and  
12 one member shall be a state representative appointed by the speaker of the house of  
13 representatives. Seven members shall be appointed jointly by the president of the senate and  
14 speaker of the house of representatives, as follows:

15 (1) one member who is a member of the Alaska State Medical Association;

16 (2) one member who is a member of the Alaska Pharmacist Association;

17 (3) one member of the Alaska State Medical Board;

18 (4) one member representing nurse practitioners;

19 (5) one member who is an employee of the Department of Community and  
20 Economic Development, division of occupational licensing;

21 (6) two members who are licensed to practice naturopathy in the state.

22 (c) The task force established under (a) of this section

23 (1) may begin work immediately upon the appointment of its full voting  
24 membership and shall meet at least three times telephonically or in person;

25 (2) shall hold public hearings and may perform research related to its work;

26 (3) may meet during the interim and vote telephonically;

27 (4) shall report its written findings and give a copy of proposed legislation  
28 and other recommendations to the legislature before December 1, 2004; and

29 (5) is terminated on February 1, 2005.

30 \* **Sec. 3.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).