



ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Fifty-sixth Legislature
Second Regular Session

House: HHS DP 8-2-0-0

HB 2453: AHCCCS; naturopathic physicians
Sponsor: Representative Montenegro, LD 29
Caucus & COW

Overview

Adds naturopathic physicians to the definition of *physician* for the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), subject to approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

History

The *practice of naturopathic medicine* means a medical system of diagnosing and treating diseases, injuries, ailments, infirmities and other conditions of the human mind and body, including by natural means, drugless methods, drugs, nonsurgical methods, devices, physical, electrical, hygienic and sanitary measures and all forms of physical agents and modalities ([A.R.S. § 32-1501](#)). Naturopathic physicians are licensed to practice naturopathic medicine by the Naturopathic Physicians Medical Board after meeting qualifications for licensure ([A.R.S. § 32-1522](#)).

For AHCCCS coverage, a *physician* is defined as an individual who is licensed as a doctor of medicine or a doctor of osteopathy ([A.R.S. § 36-2901](#)).

Provisions

1. Expands the definition of *physician* for AHCCCS to include licensed naturopathic physicians. (Sec. 1)
2. Specifies that this legislation does not become effective unless CMS approves naturopathic physicians as service providers on or before October 1, 2027. (Sec. 2)
3. Makes this legislation effective by October 1 of the year following the approval. (Sec. 2)
4. Requires AHCCCS to notify the Director of Arizona Legislative Council in writing on or before November 1, 2027 either:
 - a) of the date of the approval by CMS; or
 - b) that CMS did not approve AHCCCS's request. (Sec. 2)
5. Makes a technical change. (Sec. 1)

<input type="checkbox"/> Prop 105 (45 votes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Prop 108 (40 votes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency (40 votes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal Note
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