



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

Raised Bill No. 177

LCO No. 1476



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:
(PH)

***AN ACT AUTHORIZING NATUROPATHIC PHYSICIANS TO
PRESCRIBE MEDICATION.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 20-34 of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes
2 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2024*):

4 (a) The practice of naturopathy means the science, art and practice of
5 healing by natural methods as recognized by the Council of
6 Naturopathic Medical Education and that comprises diagnosis,
7 prevention and treatment of disease and health optimization by
8 stimulation and support of the body's natural healing processes, as
9 approved by the State Board of Naturopathic Examiners, with the
10 consent of the Commissioner of Public Health, and shall include (1)
11 counseling; (2) the practice of the mechanical and material sciences of
12 healing as follows: The mechanical sciences such as mechanotherapy,
13 articular manipulation, corrective and orthopedic gymnastics,
14 physiotherapy, hydrotherapy, electrotherapy and phototherapy; and
15 the material sciences such as nutrition, dietetics, phytotherapy,

16 treatment by natural substances and external applications; (3) ordering
17 diagnostic tests and other diagnostic procedures as such tests and
18 procedures relate to the practice of mechanical and material sciences of
19 healing as described in subdivision (2) of this subsection; (4) ordering
20 medical devices and durable medical equipment; [and] (5) removing ear
21 wax, spirometry, tuberculosis testing and venipuncture for blood
22 testing; and (6) treatment by prescription medication pursuant to
23 subsection (b) of this section.

24 [(b) For purposes of subsection (a) of this section] As used in this
25 subsection, "natural substances" means substances that are not narcotic
26 substances, as defined in section 21a-240, do not require the written or
27 oral prescription of a licensed practitioner to be dispensed and are only
28 administered orally.

29 (b) The Department of Public Health, in consultation with the State
30 Board of Naturopathic Examiners established pursuant to section 20-35,
31 shall establish (A) educational and examination requirements or other
32 qualifications to permit a naturopathic physician to prescribe, dispense
33 and administer prescription medication consistent with such
34 naturopathic physician's scope of practice, and (B) a naturopathic
35 formulary of prescription medication that a naturopathic physician who
36 meets such educational and examination requirements or other
37 qualifications may use consistent with such naturopathic physician's
38 practice and training. At least triennially, the Department of Public
39 Health, in consultation with the State Board of Naturopathic Examiners,
40 shall update the naturopathic formulary of prescription medication
41 established under this subsection.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	October 1, 2024	20-34
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Statement of Purpose:

To authorize naturopathic physicians to prescribe medication.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]