

REGISTER ACUPUNCTURISTS

House Bills 5243 and 5244
Sponsor: Rep. Michael J. Bennane
Committee: Public Health

Complete to 9-11-92

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILLS 5243 AND 5244 AS INTRODUCED 10-9-91

The bills would create a state registration system for acupuncturists and set registration fees.

House Bill 5243 would amend the Public Health Code (MCL 333.16131 et al.) to prohibit people from calling themselves "acupuncturists" or "registered acupuncturists" unless they were registered with the state. The bill also would define "acupuncturist" and create a board of acupuncture in the Department of Public Health.

"Acupuncturist" would mean someone who was registered under the bill and who prevented (or "modified the perception of") pain or who normalized physiological functions (including pain control) by stimulating "a certain point or points on or near the surface of the human body by the insertion of needles, application of probe tips, or noninvasive means." Acupuncturists could electrically stimulate the needles they used, and also could use superficial heat and herbal remedies.

The Michigan Board of Acupuncture. The bill would create a five-member board of acupuncture consisting of one public member, one physician (either an M.D. or a D.O.), and three non-physician acupuncturists members who met the Public Health Code's requirements for board members (for example, a minimum age of 18, "good moral character," residency in the state, and holding a current license or registration under certain circumstances).

The board would be responsible for establishing registration requirements, and could adopt by reference requirements set by a national certifying organization.

Grandfather clause. For two years after the registration requirements were established, the board of acupuncture would be required to register individuals who had been practicing acupuncture for at least three of the five years immediately preceding their application for registration.

Exemptions. So long as they didn't hold themselves out to be registered acupuncturists, the bill would not apply to other certified, licensed or "statutorily recognized" members of other professions who practiced as authorized by law, nor would it apply to people practicing massage as defined under the Occupational Code.

House Bills 5243 and 5244 (9-11-92)

House Bill 5244 would amend the State License Fee Act (MCL 338.2252) to set application fees (\$20), examination fees (\$50), and annual registration fees (\$50) for registered acupuncturists or those seeking registration as acupuncturists.

Tie-bar. The bills are tie-barred to each other.