



HR0095 Enrolled

LRB096 06616 ASK 16700 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION 95

2

WHEREAS, According to data published in 1990 and again in 1997 in the Journal of the American Medical Association by David Eisenberg, MD of Harvard Medical School, over 40% of Americans use at least one alternative therapy; over 70% of the patients using alternative therapies in Dr. Eisenberg's study did not disclose this use to their medical doctors; and

8

WHEREAS, The provision of complementary and alternative therapies is increasing by practitioners who have varied to no training, testing, or legitimate certification; and

10

11

WHEREAS, In recognizing the demand for natural medicine, the challenge for regulators is to identify those practitioners who have the appropriate education and training to safely practice complementary and alternative therapies; and

14

15

WHEREAS, Naturopathic physicians are among the highest trained practitioners in the broadest scope of complementary and alternative medicine; and

17

18

WHEREAS, Prior to 1987, naturopathic physicians were eligible for licensure in Illinois under the Medical Practice Act; and

20

1 WHEREAS, Legislative recognition in the form of State
2 licensure creates a climate for patients to trust the
3 credentials of naturopathic physicians providing complementary
4 and alternative therapies; and

5 WHEREAS, Fifteen states, the District of Columbia, and the
6 U.S. territories of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands
7 have licensing laws for naturopathic physicians; and

8 WHEREAS, The licensing of naturopathic physicians assures
9 the public of a high standard of education and training of
10 these practitioners while providing consumers access to
11 evidence based natural therapies; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
13 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
14 there is created the Task Force on the Licensure of
15 Naturopathic Physicians within the Department of Financial and
16 Professional Regulation to (i) evaluate whether the standards
17 of naturopathic medical education and training are adequate to
18 protect the public and (ii) make recommendations as to the
19 extent to which regulation of naturopathic physicians will
20 benefit the health of the citizens of Illinois; and be it
21 further

22 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall be composed of 3

1 members of the House of Representatives appointed by the
2 Speaker of the House, one of whom will chair the Task Force;
3 and 3 members of the House of Representatives appointed by the
4 Minority Leader of the House; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall hold hearings to
6 determine the public demand for appropriately educated and
7 trained naturopathic physicians and the risk and detriment to
8 the public welfare in the absence of regulation; the Task Force
9 shall also examine naturopathic medical education institutions
10 in order to establish the adequacy of naturopathic medical
11 education and training; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall present a written
13 report of its findings to the House of Representatives no later
14 than December 31, 2009.