

**First Regular Session
Seventieth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 15-0368.01 Christy Chase x2008

HOUSE BILL 15-1075

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE AUTHORITY FOR A REGISTERED NATUROPATHIC**
102 **DOCTOR TO TREAT CHILDREN WHO ARE UNDER TWO YEARS OF**
103 **AGE.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/bills summaries>.)

Current law prohibits a registered naturopathic doctor (ND) from treating a child who is under 2 years of age. The bill permits an ND to treat a child who is under 2 years of age if the ND:

- ! Provides the child's parent with the current recommended immunization schedule for children;

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

- ! Demonstrates, prior to treating a child under 2 years of age and in each year in which the ND treats a child under 2 years of age, completion of 3 hours per year of education or training in pediatrics;
- ! Requires the child's parent to sign an informed consent acknowledging that the ND is registered under the "Naturopathic Doctor Act" and is not a licensed physician, recommending that the child maintain a relationship with a licensed pediatric health care provider, and requesting permission to collaborate with the child's pediatric health care provider;
- ! On the first visit, refers a child who does not have a relationship with a pediatric health care provider to a licensed physician who treats pediatric patients for a wellness evaluation; and
- ! Complies with director rules pertaining to the training, referral, and communication requirements.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-37.3-105, **amend**
 3 (2) (e) as follows:

4 **12-37.3-105. Practice of naturopathic medicine by**
 5 **naturopathic doctors - exclusions - protected activities - rules.** (2) A
 6 naturopathic doctor shall not:

7 (e) Treat a child who is less than two years of age, UNLESS THE
 8 NATUROPATHIC DOCTOR:

9 (I) PROVIDES TO THE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OF THE CHILD
 10 A COPY OF THE MOST RECENT IMMUNIZATIONS SCHEDULE RECOMMENDED
 11 BY THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON IMMUNIZATION PRACTICES TO THE
 12 CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION IN THE FEDERAL
 13 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND RECOMMENDS THAT
 14 THE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN FOLLOW THE IMMUNIZATIONS
 15 SCHEDULE;

16 (II) ON OR AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBPARAGRAPH

1 (II), DEMONSTRATES, PRIOR TO TREATING A CHILD UNDER TWO YEARS OF
2 AGE AND IN EACH YEAR IN WHICH THE NATUROPATHIC DOCTOR TREATS A
3 CHILD UNDER TWO YEARS OF AGE, SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THREE
4 HOURS PER YEAR OF EDUCATION OR PRACTICUM TRAINING SOLELY
5 RELATED TO PEDIATRICS IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONTINUING
6 PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS APPROVED BY THE DIRECTOR
7 PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-37.3-108;

8 (III) REQUIRES THE CHILD'S PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN TO SIGN
9 AN INFORMED CONSENT THAT:

10 (A) DISCLOSES THAT THE NATUROPATHIC DOCTOR IS REGISTERED
11 PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE;

12 (B) DISCLOSES THAT THE NATUROPATHIC DOCTOR IS NOT A
13 PHYSICIAN LICENSED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 36 OF THIS TITLE;

14 (C) RECOMMENDS THAT THE CHILD HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH
15 A LICENSED PEDIATRIC HEALTH CARE PROVIDER; AND

16 (D) IF THE CHILD HAS A RELATIONSHIP WITH A LICENSED PEDIATRIC
17 HEALTH CARE PROVIDER, REQUESTS PERMISSION FROM THE PARENT OR
18 LEGAL GUARDIAN FOR THE NATUROPATHIC DOCTOR TO ATTEMPT TO
19 DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN A COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE
20 LICENSED PEDIATRIC HEALTH CARE PROVIDER, AS DEFINED BY DIRECTOR
21 RULES; OR IF THE CHILD DOES NOT HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH A LICENSED
22 PEDIATRIC HEALTH CARE PROVIDER, ON THE CHILD'S FIRST VISIT, REFERS
23 THE CHILD TO AT LEAST ONE LICENSED PHYSICIAN WHO CARES FOR
24 PEDIATRIC PATIENTS FOR A WELLNESS EVALUATION; AND

25 (IV) COMPLIES WITH RULES ADOPTED BY THE DIRECTOR
26 REGARDING THE TRAINING REQUIRED BY SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS
27 PARAGRAPH (e) AND REFERRAL TO AND COMMUNICATION WITH LICENSED

1 PEDIATRIC HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS OR LICENSED PHYSICIANS AS
2 REQUIRED BY SUB-SUBPARAGRAPH (D) OF SUBPARAGRAPH (III) OF THIS
3 PARAGRAPH (e), TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF CLIENTS WHO ARE UNDER TWO
4 YEARS OF AGE;

5 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
6 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
7 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.