

CHAPTER 246

[Senate Bill No. 6523]

NATUROPATHS—MECHANOTHERAPY

AN ACT Relating to naturopathic mechanotherapy; and amending RCW 18.36A.040.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Sec. 1. Section 3, chapter 447, Laws of 1987 and RCW 18.36A.040 are each amended to read as follows:

Naturopathic medicine or naturopathy is the practice by naturopaths of the art and science of the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of disorders of the body by stimulation or support, or both, of the natural processes of the human body. A naturopath is responsible and accountable to the consumer for the quality of naturopathic care rendered.

The practice of naturopathy includes manual manipulation (mechanotherapy) ~~((until June 30, 1988))~~, the prescription, administration, dispensing, and use, except for the treatment of malignancies or neoplastic disease, of nutrition and food science, physical modalities, homeopathy, certain medicines of mineral, animal, and botanical origin, hygiene and immunization, common diagnostic procedures, and suggestion; however, nothing in this chapter shall prohibit consultation and treatment of a patient in concert with a practitioner licensed under chapter 18.57 or 18.71 RCW. No person licensed under this chapter may employ the term "chiropractic" to describe any services provided by a naturopath under this chapter.

The state health coordinating council shall study and make recommendations on the qualifications of naturopaths in practicing manual manipulation (mechanotherapy), including the minimum educational standards comparable to the educational requirements of other health professions, and verification of qualifications by examination of applicants for naturopathic licensure. The report shall be presented to the legislature by January 1, 1989.

~~((The legislature shall review the practice of manual manipulation (mechanotherapy) by naturopaths before December 15, 1987, to determine whether the practice should be continued or modified:))~~

Passed the Senate March 7, 1988.

Passed the House March 5, 1988.

Approved by the Governor March 24, 1988.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 24, 1988.