

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 421

BY REPRESENTATIVES LEGER AND WRIGHT

ACUPUNCTURISTS: Provides for the licensing of acupuncturists

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 37:1358, relative to the practice of acupuncture; to provide for
3 licensing of acupuncturists; to repeal the requirement that acupuncturists maintain
4 physician relationships; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 37:1358 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §1358. Licensed acupuncturists; ~~relationship with physician~~

8 ~~A.~~ The board shall certify as a licensed acupuncturist any of an individual
9 who meets both of the following:

10 (1) ~~An individual who has graduated from an acupuncture school or college~~
11 ~~accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine~~
12 Holds active status with the National Certification Commission of Acupuncture and
13 Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM).

14 (2) ~~An individual who has~~ Has successfully passed the certification
15 examination, including the Biomedicine portion of the examination, given by the
16 National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.

17 ~~B.~~ ~~The licensed acupuncturist shall establish and maintain, in accordance~~
18 ~~with rules and regulations promulgated by the board, a relationship with a physician~~
19 ~~who operates a physical practice location in Louisiana to provide for referrals and~~
20 ~~follow-up care which may be necessary.~~

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 421 Engrossed

2018 Regular Session

Leger

Abstract: Revises licensing requirements for acupuncturists.

Present law provides that the La. Board of Medical Examiners (LSBME) shall certify as a licensed acupuncturist any of the following:

- (1) An individual who has graduated from an acupuncture school or college accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.
- (2) An individual who has successfully passed the certification examination given by the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM).

Proposed law changes present law to provide that the LSBME shall certify as a licensed acupuncturist an individual who meets both of the following:

- (1) Holds active status with the NCCAOM.
- (2) Has successfully passed the certification examination, including the Biomedicine portion of the examination, given by the NCCAOM.

Present law requires a licensed acupuncturist to establish and maintain a relationship with a physician who operates a physical practice location in the state.

Proposed law repeals the duty to maintain a relationship with a physician.

(Amends R.S. 37:1358)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill:

1. Clarify the certification requirements for licensed acupuncturists to be that the individual:
 - (a) Holds active status with the National Certification Commission of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM).
 - (b) Has successfully passed the certification examination, including the Biomedicine portion of the examination, given by the NCCAOM.
2. Delete provision authorizing certification of an individual who has graduated from a training program approved by the La. State Board of Medical Examiners.