SESSION OF 2010

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 83

As Recommended by House Committee on Health and Human Services

Brief*

House Sub. for SB 83 would change the regulatory status of naturopathic doctors with the Board of Healing Arts from registrants to licensees. In addition, the bill would authorize naturopaths to form professional corporations and would provide clarifying language that licensure does not require health insurance to provide covered services.

Background

House Sub. for SB 83 included the language from HB 2575. The proponents of the bill (HB 2575) included several representatives of the Kansas Naturopathic Physician's Association, as well as representatives of Ancient Formulas, Inc. and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

A representative of the Kansas Medical Society (KMS) appeared in opposition to the bill. The KMS was opposed to the original bill's inclusion of scope of practice which would have allowed naturopaths to prescribe, recommend, or administer bio-identical medicines approved for intravenous administration and would have allowed naturopathic doctors to perform school health assessments for students up to the age of nine. An agreement was reached between the naturopathic doctors and the KMS. The agreement is the amended bill.

^{*}Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at http://www.kslegislature.org

The original SB 83 would have re-established the Kansas Autism Task Force which was created by the 2007 Legislature and expired on December 31, 2008.

The fiscal note for HB 2575 indicated the original bill would have increased the rules and regulations, applications, online booklets, and other website information as they apply to naturopathic doctors to reflect the new regulatory status of licensure and the new scope of practice. The Board estimated the costs to make these changes was estimated to be under \$2,000.