A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that under existing law, continuing education requirements for naturopathic physicians only include courses approved by professional associations or organizations approved by the board of naturopathic medicine. Certain courses, which are otherwise accredited by a naturopathic medical school or another licensing board, are therefore not acceptable in Hawaii unless approved by a board-approved professional association or organization. This has resulted in significant amounts of additional work for these board-approved professional associations and organizations and confusion amongst Hawaii's naturopathic physicians regarding acceptable continuing education courses.

Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to clarify the list of acceptable institutions or organizations that can meet the continuing education requirements needed by naturopathic physicians for license renewal.
SECTION 2. Section 455-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending the definition of "continuing education courses" to read as follows:

"Continuing education courses" means courses approved by [a]:

1. A state naturopathic licensing board;
2. A professional association or organization representing a licensed profession whose program objectives are related to naturopathic medicine; provided that the professional association or organization is approved by the board[; or]
3. A university, college, or institution of naturopathic medicine program accredited by the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education or the Accreditation Council on Continuing Medical Education."

SECTION 3. Section 455-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (f) to read as follows:

"(f) Prior to December 31 of each odd-numbered year, each licensee shall:

1. Complete the renewal form prescribed by the board and certify that the licensee has complied with the
continuing education requirement of this section for
the applicable renewal period; and

(2) Submit evidence of completion of the continuing
education courses taken during the applicable renewal
period to the board, including but not limited to
certificates of completion. At a minimum,
documentation shall contain the following information:

(A) Name of the licensee;

(B) Title of the continuing education course taken;

(C) Date that the continuing education course was
    taken;

(D) Name of the state licensing board; professional
    association or organization; or university,
college, or institution of naturopathic medicine
program that approved the continuing education
    course;

(E) Number of hours for the course; and

(F) Number of hours for the course in pharmacology."

SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.
Report Title: Naturopathic Medicine; Continuing Education; Licensure Requirements

Description: Expands the list of acceptable institutions or organizations that can approve the continuing education courses needed by naturopathic physicians for license renewal. (SB777 HD2)

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