
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the definition of
2 the practice of medicine was last amended in 2008 by including a
3 distinct definition of osteopathic medicine. The legislature
4 further finds that medical doctors and osteopathic doctors are
5 both physicians of equivalent education and training and should
6 be regulated as such.

7 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish a
8 definition of the practice of medicine that provides uniformity
9 of practice for both medical and osteopathic physicians.

10 SECTION 2. Section 453-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
11 amended to read as follows:

12 "**§453-1 Practice of medicine defined.** For the purposes of
13 this chapter, the practice of medicine by a physician or an
14 osteopathic physician includes the use of drugs and
15 medicines [7]; surgery; manual medicine; water [7];
16 electricity [7]; hypnotism [7]; telehealth; the interpretation of
17 tests, including primary diagnosis of pathology specimens,



1 medical imaging, or any physical; osteopathic medicine~~[, or]~~;
2 any means, [or] method, or [any] agent, either tangible or
3 intangible, [for the treatment of] to diagnose, treat, prescribe
4 for, palliate, or correct disease, or prevent any human disease,
5 condition, ailment, pain, injury, deformity, illness, infirmity,
6 defect, physical or mental condition in the human subject~~[,~~
7 ~~provided that when a duly licensed physician or osteopathic~~
8 ~~physician pronounces a person affected with any disease hopeless~~
9 ~~and beyond recovery and gives a written certificate to that~~
10 ~~effect to the person affected or the person's attendant nothing~~
11 ~~herein shall forbid any person from giving or furnishing any~~
12 ~~remedial agent or measure when so requested by or on behalf of~~
13 ~~the affected person].~~

14 This section shall not amend or repeal the law respecting
15 the treatment of those affected with Hansen's disease.

16 ~~[For purposes of this chapter, "osteopathic medicine" means~~
17 ~~the utilization of full methods of diagnosis and treatment in~~
18 ~~physical and mental health and disease, including the~~
19 ~~prescribing and administration of drugs and biologicals of all~~
20 ~~kinds, operative surgery, obstetrics, radiological, and other~~
21 ~~electromagnetic emissions, and placing special emphasis on the~~



1 ~~interrelation of the neuro-musculoskeletal system to all other~~
2 ~~body systems, and the amelioration of disturbed structure-~~
3 ~~function relationships by the clinical application of the~~
4 ~~osteopathic diagnosis and therapeutic skills for the maintenance~~
5 ~~of health and treatment of disease.] "~~

6 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
7 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

8 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Practice of Medicine; Medical Physicians; Osteopathic Physicians

Description:

Clarifies the definition of the practice of medicine to provide uniformity of practice for both medical physicians and osteopathic physicians. (SD1)

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