

By Senator Galvano

26-00346A-13

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to health care practitioners; amending  
3           s. 456.072, F.S.; requiring that certain health care  
4           practitioners make specified disclosures when  
5           presenting themselves as "Doctor" or "Dr."; creating  
6           s. 456.0675, F.S.; providing criminal penalties for  
7           violations if there is an intent to mislead; providing  
8           an effective date.

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10   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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12           Section 1. Paragraph (oo) is added to subsection (1) of  
13   section 456.072, Florida Statutes, to read:

14           456.072 Grounds for discipline; penalties; enforcement.—

15           (1) The following acts shall constitute grounds for which  
16   the disciplinary actions specified in subsection (2) may be  
17   taken:

18           (oo) Presenting oneself with the title of "Doctor" or the  
19   abbreviation "Dr." as a name prefix by a person licensed under  
20   chapter 464, whether orally or in writing, while rendering or  
21   advertising health care services, without disclosing that the  
22   licensee is not a medical doctor or an osteopathic physician.

23           Section 2. Section 456.0675, Florida Statutes, is created  
24   to read:

25           456.0675 Penalty for misleading identification by a health  
26   care practitioner.—In addition to, or in lieu of, any other  
27   discipline imposed pursuant to s. 456.072, presenting oneself  
28   with the title of "Doctor" or the abbreviation "Dr." as a name  
29   prefix by a person licensed under chapter 464, while rendering

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30 or advertising health care services, without disclosing that the  
31 licensee is not a medical doctor or an osteopathic physician,  
32 and having intent to mislead, constitutes a felony of the third  
33 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s.  
34 775.084.

35 Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2013.