

By Senator Garcia

36-00465-26

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to naturopathy; providing a short title; providing legislative findings and intent; renumbering, reenacting, reordering, and amending s. 462.01, F.S.; defining the term "board"; revising the definition of the terms "natureopathy" and "naturopathy"; repealing s. 462.023, F.S., relating to powers and duties of the Department of Health; creating s. 462.002, F.S.; creating the Board of Naturopathy within the department; providing for membership of the board; providing term limits; providing applicability; specifying requirements for the first naturopath members appointed to the board; creating s. 462.003, F.S.; providing rulemaking authority to the board; creating s. 462.004, F.S.; providing licensure requirements for naturopaths; providing for licensure by endorsement; renumbering, reenacting, reordering, and amending s. 462.08, F.S., relating to renewal of license to practice naturopathy; providing requirements for licensure renewal; creating s. 462.006, F.S.; providing titles and abbreviations licensed naturopaths may use and are prohibited from using; creating s. 462.007, F.S.; specifying acts that are outside the scope of practice of naturopaths; authorizing licensed naturopaths to prescribe, dispense, and administer specified non-legend nutritional product; specifying that controlled and noncontrolled legend drugs are outside the scope of a licensed naturopath's prescriptive authority;

36-00465-26

2026542__

creating s. 462.008, F.S.; authorizing the board to adopt certain rules for the health, safety, and welfare of the public; repealing s. 462.09, F.S., relating to disposition of fees; reenacting and amending s. 462.11, F.S., relating to naturopaths to observe regulations; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; repealing s. 462.13, F.S., relating to additional powers and duties of the department; reenacting and amending s. 462.14, F.S., relating to grounds for disciplinary action and action by the department; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; making technical changes; reenacting and amending ss. 462.16 and 462.17, F.S., relating to reissue of license and penalty for offenses relating to naturopathy, respectively; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; reenacting and amending s. 462.18, F.S.; providing continuing education requirements for licensed naturopaths; reenacting and amending s. 462.19, F.S.; making conforming and technical changes; reenacting s. 462.2001, F.S., relating to saving clause; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. This act shall be known as the "Florida Naturopathy Sunrise Act."

Section 2. (1) The Legislature finds that naturopathy is a distinct healing art emphasizing natural methods of health care.

36-00465-26

2026542__

(2) The Legislature further finds that public health and safety require updated, modernized licensing, scope of practice standards, and regulatory oversight for naturopaths.

(3) It is the intent of the Legislature to reestablish licensure for naturopaths to ensure professional competency, protect the public health, and provide residents of this state with access to regulated naturopathic care.

Section 3. Section 462.01, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as section 462.001, Florida Statutes, and reenacted, reordered, and amended, to read:

462.001 ~~462.01~~ Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:

(1) "Board" means the Board of Naturopathy.

(3) "Natureopathy" and "naturopathy" shall be construed as synonymous terms and mean the use and practice of biofeedback; biochemistry; Christian Science or prayer treatments; counseling; diagnostic procedures, including physical examinations for diagnostic purposes, clinical laboratory tests, if conducted in cooperation with a licensed physician, and physiological function tests; dietary therapy; dietary recommendations; digestive aids; Eastern medicine; Eastern medicine dietary recommendations; enzymes; external applications; first aid; food; food extracts; health coaching; health education; herbal substances, excluding CBD and THC compounds; homeopathy; hygiene; hydrotherapy; hypnotherapy, if licensed as a hypnotherapist or certified in hypnotherapy; indigenous medicine; iridology; ordering an ultrasound, X-ray, or electrocardiogram test, only if working with a licensed physician and referring the client to an appropriate licensed

36-00465-26

2026542__

88 health care professional for conducting and interpreting the
89 tests; mechanotherapy or stretch therapy; minerals; naturopathic
90 light touch therapy; naturopathic testing, such as tongue and
91 nail observational testing; nutrition counseling; nutrition
92 education; nutritional substances, such as amino acids, vitamins
93 and minerals, and nutritional IV therapies, only if ordered in
94 cooperation with a licensed physician; phytotherapy; plant
95 substances; sanitation; spiritual healing; and animal
96 organotherapy not scheduled under chapter 893 ~~psychological,~~
97 ~~mechanical, and material health sciences to aid in purifying,~~
98 ~~cleansing, and normalizing human tissues for the preservation or~~
99 ~~restoration of health, according to the fundamental principles~~
100 ~~of anatomy, physiology, and applied psychology, as may be~~
101 ~~required. Naturopathic practice employs, among other agencies,~~
102 ~~phytotherapy, dietetics, psychotherapy, suggestotherapy,~~
103 ~~hydrotherapy, zone therapy, biochemistry, external applications,~~
104 ~~electrotherapy, mechanotherapy, mechanical and electrical~~
105 ~~appliances, hygiene, first aid, sanitation, and heliotherapy;~~
106 ~~provided, however, that nothing in this chapter shall be held or~~
107 ~~construed to authorize any naturopathic physician licensed~~
108 ~~hereunder to practice materia medica or surgery or chiropractic~~
109 ~~medicine, nor shall the provisions of this law in any manner~~
110 ~~apply to or affect the practice of osteopathic medicine,~~
111 ~~chiropractic medicine, Christian Science, or any other treatment~~
112 ~~authorized and provided for by law for the cure or prevention of~~
113 ~~disease and ailments.~~

114 (2) "Department" means the Department of Health.

115 Section 4. Section 462.023, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

116 Section 5. Section 462.002, Florida Statutes, is created to

36-00465-26

2026542__

117 read:

118 462.002 Board of Naturopathy.-

119 (1) There is created within the department the Board of
120 Naturopathy.

121 (2) The board shall be composed of seven members appointed
122 by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Four members must
123 be naturopaths licensed under this chapter; one member must be a
124 physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459; one member
125 must be a chiropractic physician licensed under chapter 460; and
126 one member must be a pharmacist licensed under chapter 465.

127 (3) Members shall serve 4-year terms. Members may serve for
128 no more than 8 consecutive years and no more than 12 years in
129 total. After serving 8 consecutive years, a member is eligible
130 for reappointment for one additional 4-year term after 1
131 calendar year has passed since the date of the end of the last
132 term served.

133 (4) As the terms of the members expire, the Governor shall
134 appoint successors for terms of 4 years, and such members shall
135 serve until their successors are appointed.

136 (5) All applicable provisions of chapter 456 relating to
137 activities of regulatory boards shall apply.

138 Section 6. The first naturopath members appointed to the
139 Board of Naturopathy under s. 462.002, Florida Statutes, as
140 created by this act, must meet all qualifications to obtain a
141 license pursuant to s. 462.004, Florida Statutes.

142 Section 7. Section 462.003, Florida Statutes, is created to
143 read:

144 462.003 Rulemaking authority.-The board has authority to
145 adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement

36-00465-26

2026542__

the provisions of this chapter conferring duties upon it. Such rules include, but are not limited to, rules relating to licensure requirements, standards of practice, and continuing education.

Section 8. Section 462.004, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

462.004 Licensure requirements; licensure by endorsement.—

(1) Any person desiring to be a licensed naturopath under this chapter must apply to the department, submit to background screening in accordance with s. 456.0135, and submit proof to the department that she or he meets all of the following criteria:

(a) Is at least 21 years of age.

(b) Has obtained professional liability insurance.

(c) Has obtained first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation certifications.

(d) Holds one or more of the following qualifications:

1. Board certification in naturopathy from the American Naturopathic Medical Certification Board.

2. Successful passage of the Naturopathic Doctors Licensing Exam from the National Board of Naturopathic Examiners.

3. Successful passage of the Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Examinations from the North American Board of Naturopathic Examiners.

(2) The department shall issue a license by endorsement to any applicant who, upon applying to the department, demonstrates that she or he meets the requirements for licensure by endorsement under s. 456.0145.

Section 9. Section 462.08, Florida Statutes, is renumbered

36-00465-26

2026542__

as section 462.005, Florida Statutes, and reenacted and amended,
to read:

462.005 ~~462.08~~ Renewal of license to practice naturopathy.-
Each licenseholder shall biennially renew her or his license to
practice naturopathy. As a condition for licensure renewal, an
applicant must maintain professional liability coverage and
certifications in first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation
and comply with the continuing education requirements of s.
462.18. The department shall renew a license upon receipt of a
renewal application and proof of compliance with the
requirements of this section ~~The applicant must furnish to the~~
~~department such evidence as it requires of the applicant's~~
~~compliance with s. 462.18, relating to educational requirements.~~
~~The biennial renewal fee, the amount of which shall be~~
~~determined by the department but which may not exceed \$1,000,~~
~~must be paid at the time the application for renewal of the~~
~~license is filed.~~

Section 10. Section 462.006, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:

462.006 Titles.-

(1) Naturopaths licensed under this chapter may use any of
the following titles or abbreviations: "naturopath,"
"traditional naturopath," "naturopathic practitioner," "licensed
naturopath," "L.N.," or "N.D."

(2) Naturopaths licensed under this chapter may not use any
of the following titles: "naturopathic medical doctor" or
"naturopathic physician."

Section 11. Section 462.007, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:

36-00465-26

2026542__

204 462.007 Scope of practice; prescriptive authority.—

205 (1) This chapter does not authorize a licensed naturopath
206 to engage in or perform any of the following:

207 (a) Acupuncture.

208 (b) Electroacupuncture.

209 (c) Emergency medicine.

210 (d) Endoscopies.

211 (e) Injections, including injections with the use of
212 syringes.

213 (f) Local anesthesia.

214 (g) Physiological function tests requiring infusion,
215 injection, inhalation, or ingestion of medications to perform
216 the test.

217 (h) Practice or claim to practice medicine, surgery,
218 osteopathy, dentistry, podiatry, optometry, chiropractic
219 medicine, or physical therapy.

220 (i) Surgery and surgical procedures.

221 (2) A licensed naturopath may prescribe, dispense, and
222 administer non-legend nutritional products, including, but not
223 limited to, all of the following:

224 (a) Essential and nonessential amino acids, such as lysine,
225 glutamine, and tryptophan.

226 (b) Electrolytes and hydration products, such as oral
227 rehydration salts and electrolyte powders.

228 (c) Enzymes, including digestive enzymes such as amylase,
229 protease, lipase, bromelain, and papain.

230 (d) Fatty acids, such as omega-3s, omega-6s, and medium-
231 chain triglycerides.

232 (e) Herbal and botanical substances, such as echinacea,

36-00465-26

2026542__

ginseng, green tea extract, milk thistle, and turmeric.

(f) Minerals, such as calcium, iron, magnesium, potassium, selenium, and zinc.

(g) Nutraceuticals and specialty compounds, such as alpha-lipoic acid, coenzyme Q10, glucosamine, chondroitin, and L-carnitine.

(h) Other non-legend nutritional substances, such as collagen peptides, fiber supplements, and natural antioxidants.

(i) Probiotics and prebiotics, such as bifidobacterium, fructooligosaccharides, inulin, and lactobacillus.

(j) Protein and meal supplements, such as casein, plant-based proteins, and whey protein.

(k) Vitamins, such as vitamin A, vitamin B-complex, vitamin C, vitamin D, vitamin E, and vitamin K.

(3) This chapter does not authorize a licensed naturopath to prescribe, dispense, and administer controlled and noncontrolled legend drugs, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

(a) Antibiotics.

(b) Antidiabetics.

(c) Antihypertensives.

(d) Antivirals.

(e) Barrier devices for contraception or abortion.

(f) Biologics.

(g) Botulinum toxin.

(h) Corticosteroids, including inhaled corticosteroids.

(i) Herbal substances containing CBD and THC compounds.

(j) Hormonal therapies.

(k) Lipid-lowering agents.

36-00465-26

2026542__

(l) Local anesthesia.

(m) Nonopioid pain medications.

(n) Ophthalmic or oral inhalation drugs in aqueous format.

(o) Proton pump inhibitors.

(p) Thyroid hormones.

(q) Vaccinations.

(r) Any controlled substance on Schedules I-V of s. 893.03.

(s) Any other controlled substance or legend drug not used
for the practice of naturopathy.

Section 12. Section 462.008, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:

462.008 Infection control.—The board may adopt rules
relating to the prevention of infection, safe disposal of any
potentially infectious materials, and other requirements to
protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

Section 13. Section 462.09, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 14. Section 462.11, Florida Statutes, is reenacted
and amended to read:

462.11 Naturopaths to observe regulations.—Naturopaths
licensed under this chapter ~~Doctors of naturopathy~~ shall observe
and are ~~be~~ subject to all state, county, and municipal
regulations in regard to the control of contagious and
infectious diseases, the reporting of births and deaths, and to
any and all other matters pertaining to the public health in the
same manner as is required of other practitioners of the healing
art.

Section 15. Section 462.13, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 16. Section 462.14, Florida Statutes, is reenacted
and amended to read:

36-00465-26

2026542__

462.14 Grounds for disciplinary action; action by the department.—

(1) The following acts constitute grounds for denial of a license or disciplinary action, as specified in s. 456.072(2):

(a) Attempting to obtain, obtaining, or renewing a license to practice naturopathy ~~naturopathic medicine~~ by bribery, by fraudulent misrepresentation, or through an error of the department.

(b) Having a license to practice naturopathy ~~naturopathic medicine~~ revoked, suspended, or otherwise acted against, including the denial of licensure, by the licensing authority of another state, territory, or country.

(c) Being convicted or found guilty, regardless of adjudication, of a crime in any jurisdiction which directly relates to the practice of naturopathy ~~naturopathic medicine~~ or to the ability to practice naturopathy ~~naturopathic medicine~~. Any plea of nolo contendere shall be considered a conviction for purposes of this chapter.

(d) False, deceptive, or misleading advertising.

(e) Advertising, practicing, or attempting to practice under a name other than one's own.

(f) Failing to report to the department any person who the licensee knows is in violation of this chapter or of the rules of the department. However, a person who the licensee knows is unable to practice naturopathy ~~naturopathic medicine~~ with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of illness or use of alcohol, drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or any other type of material, or as a result of a mental or physical condition, may be reported to a consultant operating an impaired

36-00465-26

2026542__

practitioner program as described in s. 456.076 rather than to the department.

(g) Aiding, assisting, procuring, or advising any unlicensed person to practice naturopathy ~~naturopathic medicine~~ contrary to this chapter or to a rule of the department.

(h) Failing to perform any statutory or legal obligation placed upon a licensed naturopath ~~naturopathic physician~~.

(i) Making or filing a report that ~~which~~ the licensee knows to be false, intentionally or negligently failing to file a report or record required by state or federal law, willfully impeding or obstructing such filing or inducing another person to do so. Such reports or records shall include only those which are signed in the capacity as a licensed naturopath ~~naturopathic physician~~.

(j) Paying or receiving any commission, bonus, kickback, or rebate, or engaging in any split-fee arrangement in any form whatsoever with a physician, organization, agency, or person, either directly or indirectly, for patients referred to providers of health care goods and services, including, but not limited to, hospitals, nursing homes, clinical laboratories, ambulatory surgical centers, or pharmacies. ~~The provisions of~~ This paragraph may ~~shall~~ not be construed to prevent a naturopath ~~naturopathic physician~~ from receiving a fee for professional consultation services.

(k) Exercising influence within a patient-naturopath ~~patient-physician~~ relationship for purposes of engaging a patient in sexual activity. A patient is ~~shall be~~ presumed to be incapable of giving free, full, and informed consent to sexual activity with her or his naturopath ~~physician~~.

36-00465-26

2026542__

(l) Making deceptive, untrue, or fraudulent representations in the practice of naturopathy ~~naturopathic medicine~~ or employing a trick or scheme in the practice of naturopathy ~~naturopathic medicine~~ when such scheme or trick fails to conform to the generally prevailing standards of treatment in the medical community.

(m) Soliciting patients, either personally or through an agent, through the use of fraud, intimidation, undue influence, or a form of overreaching or vexatious conduct. A "solicitation" is any communication which directly or implicitly requests an immediate oral response from the recipient.

(n) Failing to keep written medical records justifying the course of treatment of the patient, including, but not limited to, patient histories, examination results, test results, X rays, and records of the prescribing, dispensing and administering of non-legend drugs.

(o) Exercising influence on the patient or client in such a manner as to exploit the patient or client for the financial gain of the licensee or of a third party, which shall include, but not be limited to, the promoting or selling of services, goods, appliances, or non-legend drugs and the promoting or advertising on any prescription form of a community pharmacy unless the form also states "This prescription may be filled at any pharmacy of your choice."

(p) Performing professional services that ~~which~~ have not been duly authorized by the patient or client, or her or his legal representative, except as provided in s. 743.064, s. 766.103, or s. 768.13.

(q) Prescribing, dispensing, administering, mixing, or

36-00465-26

2026542__

otherwise preparing a non-legend ~~legend~~ drug, ~~including any~~
~~controlled substance~~, other than in the course of the
naturopath's ~~naturopathic physician's~~ professional practice. For
the purposes of this paragraph, it shall be legally presumed
that prescribing, dispensing, administering, mixing, or
otherwise preparing non-legend ~~legend~~ ~~drugs, including all~~
~~controlled substances~~, inappropriately or in excessive or
inappropriate quantities is not in the best interest of the
patient and is not in the course of the naturopath's
~~naturopathic physician's~~ professional practice, without regard
to her or his intent.

(r) Prescribing, dispensing, or administering any medicinal
drug appearing on any schedule set forth in chapter 893 by the
naturopath ~~naturopathic physician~~ to herself or himself, except
one prescribed, dispensed, or administered to the naturopath
~~naturopathic physician~~ by another practitioner authorized to
prescribe, dispense, or administer medicinal drugs.

(s) Being unable to practice naturopathy ~~naturopathic~~
~~medicine~~ with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason
of illness or use of alcohol, drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or
any other type of material or as a result of any mental or
physical condition. In enforcing this paragraph, the department
shall have, upon probable cause, authority to compel a
naturopath ~~naturopathic physician~~ to submit to a mental or
physical examination by physicians designated by the department.
The failure of a naturopath ~~naturopathic physician~~ to submit to
such an examination when so directed shall constitute an
admission of the allegations against her or him upon which a
default and final order may be entered without the taking of

36-00465-26

2026542__

testimony or presentation of evidence, unless the failure was due to circumstances beyond the naturopath's ~~naturopathic physician's~~ control. A naturopath ~~naturopathic physician~~ affected under this paragraph shall at reasonable intervals be afforded an opportunity to demonstrate that she or he can resume the competent practice of naturopathy ~~naturopathic medicine~~ with reasonable skill and safety to patients. In any proceeding under this paragraph, neither the record of proceedings nor the orders entered by the department may be used against a naturopath ~~naturopathic physician~~ in any other proceeding.

(t) Gross or repeated malpractice or the failure to practice naturopathy ~~naturopathic medicine~~ with that level of care, skill, and treatment which is recognized by a reasonably prudent similar naturopath ~~physician~~ as being acceptable under similar conditions and circumstances. The department shall give great weight to the provisions of s. 766.102 when enforcing this paragraph.

(u) Performing any procedure or prescribing any therapy which, by the prevailing standards of medical practice in the community, constitutes experimentation on a human subject, without first obtaining full, informed, and written consent.

(v) Practicing or offering to practice beyond the scope permitted by law or accepting and performing professional responsibilities that ~~which~~ the licensee knows or has reason to know that she or he is not competent to perform.

(w) Delegating professional responsibilities to a person when the licensee delegating such responsibilities knows or has reason to know that such person is not qualified by training, experience, or licensure to perform them.

36-00465-26

2026542__

(x) Violating a lawful order of the department previously entered in a disciplinary hearing or failing to comply with a lawfully issued subpoena of the department.

(y) Conspiring with another licensee or with any other person to commit an act, or committing an act, that ~~which~~ would tend to coerce, intimidate, or preclude another licensee from lawfully advertising her or his services.

(z) Procuring, or aiding or abetting in the procuring of, an unlawful termination of pregnancy.

(aa) Presigning blank prescription forms.

(bb) Prescribing by the naturopath ~~naturopathic physician~~ for office use any medicinal drug appearing on Schedule II in chapter 893.

(cc) Prescribing, ordering, dispensing, administering, supplying, selling, or giving any drug that ~~which~~ is an amphetamine or sympathomimetic amine drug, or a compound designated pursuant to chapter 893 as a Schedule II controlled substance to or for any person ~~except for:~~

~~1. The treatment of narcolepsy; hyperkinesia; behavioral syndrome in children characterized by the developmentally inappropriate symptoms of moderate to severe distractibility, short attention span, hyperactivity, emotional lability, and impulsivity; or drug-induced brain dysfunction.~~

~~2. The differential diagnostic psychiatric evaluation of depression or the treatment of depression shown to be refractory to other therapeutic modalities.~~

~~3. The clinical investigation of the effects of such drugs or compounds when an investigative protocol therefor is submitted to, reviewed, and approved by the department before~~

36-00465-26

2026542__

such investigation is begun.

(dd) Prescribing, ordering, dispensing, administering, supplying, selling, or giving growth hormones, testosterone or its analogs, human chorionic gonadotropin (HCG), or other hormones for the purpose of muscle building or to enhance athletic performance. For the purposes of this subsection, the term "muscle building" does not include the treatment of injured muscle. A prescription written for the drug products listed above may be dispensed by the pharmacist with the presumption that the prescription is for legitimate medical use.

(ee) Violating any provision of this chapter or chapter 456, or any rules adopted pursuant thereto.

(2) The board ~~department~~ may enter an order denying licensure or imposing any of the penalties in s. 456.072(2) against any applicant for licensure or licensee who is found guilty of violating any provision of subsection (1) of this section or who is found guilty of violating any provision of s. 456.072(1).

(3) The board ~~department~~ shall not reinstate the license of a naturopath ~~naturopathic physician~~ until such time as the board ~~department~~ is satisfied that such person has complied with all the terms and conditions set forth in the final order and that such person is capable of safely engaging in the practice of naturopathy ~~naturopathic medicine~~.

(4) The board ~~department~~ shall by rule establish guidelines for the disposition of disciplinary cases involving specific types of violations. Such guidelines may include minimum and maximum fines, periods of supervision or probation, or conditions of probation or reissuance of a license.

36-00465-26

2026542__

Section 17. Section 462.16, Florida Statutes, is reenacted and amended to read:

462.16 Reissue of license.—Any person who practices ~~shall practice~~ naturopathy after her or his license has been revoked ~~is and registration annulled shall be~~ deemed to have practiced naturopathy without a license. ~~;~~ provided, However, at any time after 6 months after the date of such revocation ~~said conviction,~~ the department may grant a license to the person affected, restoring to her or him all the rights and privileges of and pertaining to the practice of naturopathy as defined and regulated by this chapter. ~~The fee therefor shall not exceed \$250.~~

Section 18. Section 462.17, Florida Statutes, is reenacted and amended to read:

462.17 Penalty for offenses relating to naturopathy.—A person who engages in any of the following acts commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084 ~~Any person who shall:~~

(1) Sells ~~Sell~~, fraudulently obtains ~~obtain~~, or furnishes ~~furnish~~ any naturopathic diploma, license, record, or registration or aids ~~aid~~ or abets ~~abet~~ in the same. ~~;~~

(2) Practices ~~Practice~~ naturopathy under the cover of any diploma, license, record, or registration illegally or fraudulently obtained or secured or issued unlawfully or upon fraudulent representations. ~~;~~

(3) Advertises ~~Advertise~~ to practice naturopathy under a name other than her or his own or under an assumed name. ~~;~~

(4) Falsely impersonates ~~impersonate~~ another practitioner of a like or different name. ~~;~~

36-00465-26

2026542__

(5) Practices ~~Practice~~ or advertises ~~advertise~~ to practice naturopathy or uses ~~use~~ in connection with her or his name any designation tending to imply or to designate the person as a practitioner of naturopathy without ~~then~~ being lawfully licensed and authorized to practice naturopathy in this state. ~~or~~

(6) Practices ~~Practice~~ naturopathy during the time her or his license is suspended or revoked

~~shall be guilty of a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.~~

Section 19. Section 462.18, Florida Statutes, is reenacted and amended to read:

462.18 Continuing education ~~Educational requirements.~~

~~(1)~~ At the time each licensee shall renew her or his license as otherwise provided in this chapter, each licensee, ~~in addition to the payment of the regular renewal fee,~~ shall furnish to the board ~~department~~ satisfactory evidence that, in the year preceding each such application for renewal, the licensee has completed 25 hours of continuing education in naturopathy and medical nutrition therapy, and attended the 2-day educational program as promulgated and conducted by the Florida Naturopathic Physicians Association, Inc., or an, ~~as a substitute therefor,~~ the equivalent of that program as approved by the board ~~department~~. The department shall send a written notice to this effect to every person holding a valid license to practice naturopathy within this state at least 30 days before ~~prior to~~ May 1 in each even-numbered year, ~~directed to the last known address of such licensee, and shall enclose with the notice proper blank forms for application for annual license~~

36-00465-26

2026542__

renewal. All of the details and requirements of the aforesaid educational program shall be adopted and prescribed by the department. In the event of national emergencies, or for sufficient reason, the department shall have the power to excuse the naturopaths ~~naturopathic physicians~~ as a group or as individuals from taking this postgraduate course.

~~(2) The determination of whether a substitute annual educational program is necessary shall be solely within the discretion of the department.~~

Section 20. Section 462.19, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

462.19 ~~Renewal of license;~~ Inactive status.—

~~(1) The department shall renew a license upon receipt of the renewal application and fee.~~

~~(2) A licensee may request that her or his license be placed in an inactive status by making application to the department and paying a fee in an amount set by the department not to exceed \$50.~~

Section 21. Section 462.2001, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

462.2001 Saving clause.—All licenses to practice naturopathy issued pursuant to this chapter and valid on October 1, 1985, shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 22. This act shall take effect January 1, 2027.