

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 23

WHEREAS, the lack of health care availability in the state of Missouri in unserved or under served areas compromises individual and state solvency, including depleting limited Medicaid resources; and

WHEREAS, the state of Missouri needs primary care physicians with training in the medical sciences including but not limited to anatomy, biochemistry, microbiology, immunology, pathology, physiology, physical and clinical diagnosis and treatment, lab diagnosis, diagnostic imaging, and natural therapeutics; and

WHEREAS, significant cost savings to the state of Missouri will result from identifying and implementing a system of treatment of disease with a respect to modalities including nutrition, botanical medicine, homeopathy, hydrotherapy, physical manipulation, pharmacology, minor surgery, and preventative care; and

WHEREAS, consistent with education and training, physical and laboratory examinations, diagnostic and imaging testing, dispensing, administering, and prescribing prescription drugs and medical devices are necessary elements to the provision of quality health care; and

WHEREAS, establishing uniform education standards and accountability throughout Missouri in curriculum and clinical training for primary care physicians protects the public health and welfare; and

WHEREAS, informing the public as to the benefits of preventative health care options is the best interest of both the patient and the public:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-Third General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby request that the Governor and the state of Missouri, establish a "Board of Naturopathic Medical Examiners"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such Board shall be comprised of five members to be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Board shall determine the scope of the practice of naturopathic physicians consistent with the education of the physician applicants. Four members of such Board shall be educated as primary care physicians with training in the medical sciences, diagnosis and treatment, and natural therapeutics, qualified in the treatment of disease with a respect to modalities including nutrition, botanical medicine, homeopathy, hydrotherapy, physical manipulation, pharmacology, minor office procedures, and preventative care and one member shall have an interest in the rights of patient care consistent with this directive, representing the public at large; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that only a person who has received a doctor of naturopathy from a school, college, or institution that is accredited by the appropriate state educational accrediting agency in which its principal operations or offices are located, may hold themselves out as naturopathic physicians, except for primary care physicians who have a degree under Chapters 331 or 334, RSMo, and a doctor of naturopathy degree or health care providers who demonstrate a quality level of care for no less than twenty years as defined by the board created hereunder and who file an affidavit which such board stating qualifications that rise to the level of competence as determined in the sole discretion of such Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Missouri Senate be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the Governor.