

SB 452 - AS INTRODUCED

2026 SESSION

26-2024

05/09

SENATE BILL **452**

AN ACT enabling health care providers to offer certain complementary and alternative health care services.

SPONSORS: Sen. Ward, Dist 8; Sen. Long, Dist 20; Sen. Avard, Dist 12; Sen. Rochefort, Dist 1

COMMITTEE: Health and Human Services

ANALYSIS

This bill enables an individual to offer certain complementary and alternative health care services to patients notwithstanding state licensing requirements, provided that the individual does not engage in certain conduct, and the individual discloses their qualifications and obtains informed consent from the patient for such services.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six

AN ACT enabling health care providers to offer certain complementary and alternative health care services.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 New Chapter; Complementary and Alternative Health Care Practice Act. Amend RSA by
2 inserting after chapter 310-C the following new chapter:

3 CHAPTER 310-D

4 COMPLEMENTARY AND ALTERNATIVE HEALTH CARE PRACTICE ACT

5 310-D:1 Short Title. This chapter may be cited as the "Complementary and Alternative Health
6 Care Practice Act".

7 310-D:2 Definition of Complementary and Alternative Health Care Services. "Complementary
8 and alternative health care services" means health care and healing methods, modalities,
9 treatments, procedures, or protocols that have not been generally adopted by a profession, or that
10 are not generally considered to be within the prevailing standards of care of a profession.

11 310-D:3 Licensing Exemption. Notwithstanding New Hampshire licensing laws related to
12 health care occupations and services, a person who provides complementary and alternative health
13 care services and who is not licensed by the state of New Hampshire to practice a health care
14 occupation shall not violate any New Hampshire licensing law relating to health care occupations
15 and services unless that individual:

16 I. Engages in an activity prohibited under RSA 310-D:4; or

17 II. Fails to fulfill the duties set forth in RSA 310-D:5.

18 310-D:4 Prohibited Acts. A person providing complementary and alternative health care
19 services shall not:

20 I. Perform surgery on an individual.

21 II. Administer x-ray radiation to an individual.

22 III. Set fractures on an individual.

23 IV. Prescribe or dispense prescription drugs or controlled substances to an individual.

24 V. Directly manipulate the joints or spine of an individual.

25 VI. Make a recommendation to discontinue current medical treatment prescribed by a
26 licensed health care practitioner.

27 VII. Hold himself or herself out as or imply that he or she is licensed by the state of New
28 Hampshire as a health care provider if he or she is not.

1 310-D:5 Disclosures. Except for persons acting pursuant to the direction of licensed health care
2 facilities or licensed health care providers while working within the scope of their employment or
3 direction, a complementary and alternative health care practitioner shall do all of the following:

4 I. Provide to a client prior to rendering services a client information document, either in
5 writing in plain language that the client understands or, if the client cannot read, orally in a
6 language the client understands, containing the following:

7 (a) The name, complementary and alternative health care title, business address, and
8 telephone number of the person providing the complementary and alternative health care services.

9 (b) A statement that the person providing complementary and alternative health care
10 services is not a health care practitioner licensed by the state of New Hampshire.

11 (c) A statement describing the nature of the complementary and alternative health care
12 services generally provided.

13 (d) The degrees, education, training, experience, or other qualifications, if any, regarding
14 the complementary and alternative health care services to be provided held by the person providing
15 the complementary and alternative health care service.

16 II. Post a copy of the client information document in a prominent location in the office of the
17 unlicensed complementary and alternative health care practitioner.

18 III. Obtain a written acknowledgment from a client, stating that the client has been
19 provided with a copy of the information document described in paragraph I. The client shall be
20 provided with a copy of the written acknowledgment, which shall be maintained for 2 years by the
21 complementary and alternative health care practitioner providing the complementary and
22 alternative health care service.

23 310-D:6 Civil Relief. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to limit the right of any
24 person to seek relief for negligence or any other civil remedy against a person providing services
25 subject to the requirements of this chapter.

26 310-D:7 Scope of Practice. This chapter shall not affect the scope of practice of a health care
27 professional licensed under this title or their right to practice complementary or alternative health
28 care. This chapter shall not be construed to prevent a person from providing complementary or
29 alternative health care services that would otherwise be exempt under this title. This chapter may
30 not be construed to require a person to be licensed to provide services who would otherwise be
31 exempt under this title.

32 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2027.