

REVISED

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS29571 / S1330

This legislation creates a structure to voluntarily license and regulate licensed naturopathic doctors. Importantly, this legislation does not mandate licensure for any individual. To qualify for licensure under this chapter, an individual must have a valid and active license to otherwise practice as a doctor in a healthcare-related profession, either in the state of Idaho or a corresponding equivalent from another state, possess an approved doctoral degree in naturopathy, and meet standards showing minimum competency. The legislation improves access to natural healthcare for all Idahoans who choose to seek it, as well as safeguarding public health by ensuring that any licensed naturopathic doctor who wishes to perform minor procedures or utilize prescriptive privileges must carry an active and valid Idaho license to do so. The legislation also creates the Idaho Board of Naturopathic Health Care, as well as a formulary committee that advises the board on all matters related to prescriptive rights. Finally, this legislation creates a method for registration of any practicing naturopath who wishes to be registered, but not licensed, with the state. Registration would only serve as a method for Idaho citizens seeking natural health care to find any naturopathic practitioners in their area. It does not grant any new privileges and restricts scope of practice for registered naturopaths to what is currently legal under Idaho Code § 54-1804. This legislation will not limit or restrict any current rights that any naturopathic practitioner who chooses to forego registration or licensure has under state law.

FISCAL NOTE

This bill will have no impact on the General Fund because the costs to administer the licenses and regulate the naturopathic practitioners would be paid from licensure fees.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).