

SESSION OF 2019

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2185

As Amended by House Committee on Health
and Human Services

Brief*

HB 2185, as amended, would revise the Naturopathic Doctor Licensure Act. The bill would amend the definition of “naturopathic medicine” to include ordering diagnostic imaging studies, including, but not limited to, x-ray, ultrasound, mammogram, bone densitometry, computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, and electrocardiograms, except that naturopathic doctors would be required to refer patients to an appropriately licensed and qualified healthcare professional to conduct diagnostic imaging studies and interpret the results of such studies.

The bill would be in effect upon publication in the *Kansas Register*.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Health and Human Services at the request of Representative Barker on behalf of the Kansas Naturopathic Providers Association. In the House Committee hearing, a representative of the Kansas Naturopathic Doctor’s Association (Association) provided proponent testimony stating since the inception of licensure for a naturopathic doctor, it has been common practice for naturopathic doctors to order diagnostic imaging. The representative further stated the Association’s position is this bill is a clarification of current practice.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

A representative from the Kansas Medical Society provided written-only neutral testimony. No other testimony was provided.

The House Committee amended the bill by deleting “diagnostic imaging” from the definition of naturopathic medicine and by inserting language to specify ordering diagnostic imaging studies would be allowed under the Naturopathic Doctor Licensure Act.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, the Board of Healing Arts indicates enactment of the bill could increase responsibilities and workload of staff if there is an increase in complaints. The Board further indicates it has no way to estimate the additional number of complaints that would be received or the fiscal effect that would result.