

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	7 - 0 - 0 -1
Yeas:	Cannon, Doherty, Hoyle, Kennemer, Parrish, Greenlick, Thompson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Abs:	Weidner
Prepared By:	Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/16, 3/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Specifies use of title “doctor” in connection with health care profession. Requires, at all times, that individual designate health care profession in which individual’s doctoral degree was earned, including all written or printed matter, advertising, billboards, signs or professional notices used in connection with health care profession. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Interpretation of current law
- Concerns relating to term institute and clinic
- Unintended consequences of implementation of House Bill 2610 (2009)
- Proposed amendment

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Delete terms clinic, specialist and institute.

BACKGROUND: In 2009, the Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 2610, which narrowed the application of the Doctor’s Title Act. Previously, any health care practitioner who used the term “doctor” was required to identify their profession in all of their advertising.

An unintended consequence of HB 2610 (2009) was the narrowing of that requirement significantly to only those advertisements when and where the practitioner uses the term doctor.