

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure
Vote:	4 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Bates, Kruse, Shields, Monnes Anderson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Morse
Prepared By:	Brian Nieubuurt, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/2

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, regardless of whether the individual’s name or the term “doctor” appears on the material. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Problems with some advertisements
- Ways to comply with requirements in bill

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: In 2009, the Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 2610, which narrowed the application of the Doctor’s Title Act. Previously, health care practitioners who used the term “doctor” were required to identify their profession in all of their advertising. An unintended consequence of House Bill 2610 was the narrowing of that requirement significantly to only those advertisements when and where the practitioner actually uses the term “doctor.”

House Bill 2395-A reinstates a consumer protection aspect of the Doctor’s Title Act by removing the requirement that the term “doctor” actually appear on the material.