



Cultivate Energy
Wisdom • Health • Peace

National Qigong Association

Attention: House Behavioral Health Committee

Subject: HB 2493 Alternative Practitioner Registry

Please find enclosed our points of contention with regards, to this bill as written.

- Per the wording in this bill, Qigong practitioners would be required to register with the state of Oregon. We're not Mental Health Practitioners.
- Qigong is not Alternative care, Qigong is categorized by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as Complementary Integrative Medicine. We can and do work alongside Western Medicine.
- The National Center for Education Statistics under the Classification of Instructional Programs has given Qigong the CIP code 51.3799.
- The definition in Section 2. Lines 15-20 is so broad that no one, even clergy, are exempt from this law.
- The regulations established within the Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) are those required to govern licensed health care professions and do not transfer to unlicensed professions such as Complementary medicine. A nightmare for law enforcement.
- They (ORS), as written, do not provide for proper and/or equitable representation of the Alternative Care professions affected and as such, create grounds for legal challenges and other unintended consequences.
- The term "Alternative well-being care" page 2, line 11 is overreaching. To use the term Energy is very broad and often used improperly. There's an energy exchange among people on a daily basis by various methods.
- Registry means inevitable licensing. Is the state of Oregon willing to create a separate board consisting of Alternative care providers or, are they going to be absorbed by an existing board.
If so, a case of improper representation due to improper knowledge of the scope of each Alternative profession is inevitable. Another legal challenge possibility.

Conclusion:

Because this legislation lacks the proper understanding and most importantly, the knowledge of the scope of the professions being targeted, it behooves the committee to request a rewrite of this bill.

We recommend the sponsor and the committee consider contacting individuals who practice these professions so that they are not punished by regulations implemented that do not fall within their scope of practice yet, include them by association.

The National Qigong Association (NQA) **cannot** support this bill, nevertheless, we would like to propose as an alternative, a Health Freedom Act/Safe Harbor bill that protects all involved.

We can be reached by email: legislation.chair@nqa.org

Enclosed please find the NQA's Legislation Position Paper.

Sincerely,

Tom Bowman

Legislation Committee-Chair

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