

**Act Number:** 09-021

**Bill Number:** 6266

**Senate Pages:** 1589, 1657, 1659 **3**

**House Pages:** 1136-1139 **4**

**Committee:** Public Health: 267-270, 365-372, 552-559 **19**

**Page Total:** **26**

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**CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
SENATE**

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THE CHAIR:

Without objection, so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President. Calendar 244 is marked go.

Calendar 245, House Bill Number 6266, Mr. President, I move to place this item on the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Motion is on the floor for consent. Not seeing any objection, so ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President. Calendar 246, PR.

Calendar 247, PR.

Calendar 248 is marked go.

Calendar 249, PR.

Calendar 250, PR.

Calendar 263, Mr. President, Senate Bill Number 961, Mr. President, I move to refer this item to the Appropriations Committee.

THE CHAIR:

Without objection, so ordered.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President. Calendar 272, Senate

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Calendar page 6, Calendar 245, Substitute for House Bill 6266.

Calendar page 7, Calendar 272, Substitute for Senate Bill 1040.

Calendar Page 8, Calendar 359, Senate Bill 1082.

Calendar page 10, Calendar 389, Substitute for House Bill 6327; Calendar 391, Substitute for House Bill 5930.

Calendar page 11, Calendar 395, Substitute for House Bill 5297; Calendar 403, House Bill 6462.

Calendar page 12, Calendar 414, Senate Bill 905.

Calendar page 13, Calendar 416, Senate Bill 998; Calendar 432, Substitute for Senate Bill 1020.

Calendar page 15, Calendar 457, Substitute for House Bill 6356.

Calendar page 16, Calendar 460, Substitute for House Bill 6301; Calendar 465, Senate Bill 963.

Calendar page 18, Calendar 487, Senate Bill 707; Calendar 489, Substitute for Senate Bill 810.

Calendar page 21, Calendar Number 506, Senate Bill 1136; Calendar 507, Senate Bill 1141.

Calendar page 22, Calendar 515, Substitute for Senate Bill 832.

Calendar page 23, Calendar 524, Substitute for

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Have all Senators voted?

If all Senators have voted, please check the machine. The machine will be locked, the Clerk will call the tally.

THE CLERK:

Motion is on adoption of Consent Calendar Number 1. Total number voting, 36; those voting yea, 36; those voting nay, 0; those absent/not voting, 0.

THE CHAIR:

Consent Calendar Number 1 passes.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, I would move that all items referred to various committees from the chamber today be transmitted to those committees immediately.

THE CHAIR:

Without objection, so ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, also, would announce that we will be convening tomorrow about -- at 11:30 a.m., it's our intention to pick up with bills that had previously been marked "go" today. So I would move that all items previously marked go

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**CONNECTICUT  
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SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Thank you, Representative. Would you care to remark further? Would you care to remark further? Would you care to remark further on the resolution before us? If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor of the resolution, please signify by saying, aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

All those opposed, nay.

The ayes have it. The resolution is adopted.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar Number 132.

THE CLERK:

On page 10, Calendar 132, substitute for House Bill Number 6266, AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRACTICE OF ACUPUNCTURE, favorable report of the Committee on Public Health.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Representative Ritter.

REP. RITTER (38th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move for acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

The question before the Chamber is acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill. Will you remark?

REP. RITTER (38th):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this bill provides title protection to licensed acupuncturists and to individuals certified to practice auricular acupuncture for alcohol and drug abuse treatment. The bill prohibits unlicensed individuals from using the title of acupuncturist or advertising acupuncture services. It also prohibits a person from representing himself as certified to practice auricular acupuncture for the treatment of alcohol and drug abuse unless certified to do so. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I urge adoption.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Thank you, Representative. Will you remark further? Will you remark further? Will you remark further? If not, staff -- excuse me. Representative Giegler.

REP. GIEGLER (138th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This bill that came before us had the unanimous support of the Public

Health Committee, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Thank you, Representative. Will you remark further? Will you remark further on the bill? Will you remark further? If not, all staff and guests, please come to the well of the House. Members, please take your seats. The machine will be open.

THE CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll call. Members to the Chamber. The House is voting by roll call Members to the Chamber, please.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Have all the members voted? Have all the members voted? Will the members please check the board to determine if your vote has been properly cast. If all members have voted the machine will be locked and the Clerk will take a tally. Will the Clerk please announce the tally?

THE CLERK:

House Bill 6266.  
Total Number Voting 142  
Necessary for Passage 72  
Those voting Yea 141

Those voting Nay 0

Those absent and not voting 9

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

The bill is passed. Will the Clerk please call  
Calendar Number 78.

THE CLERK:

On page 4, Calendar 78, House Bill Number 6263,  
AN ACT REQUIRING THE ADMINISTRATION OF A SCREENING  
TEST FOR CYSTIC FIBROSIS TO NEWBORN INFANTS, favorable  
report of the Committee on Public Health.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Representative Ritter.

REP. RITTER (38th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move for  
acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report  
and passage of the bill.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

The question before the Chamber is acceptance of  
the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of  
the bill. Will you remark?

REP. RITTER (38th):

Mr. Speaker, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr.  
Speaker, this bill requires all health care  
institutions caring for unborn infants to test them

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DEBBIE OSBORN: Well we appreciate that, and we appreciate everyone's time today.

SENATOR HARRIS: Thank you.

DEBBIE OSBORN: Thank you.

REP. RITTER: Thank you. That concludes our testimony on this bill.

I would like to ask the committee to take the next person out of order, and she's waiting to get on a plane to go back to Florida. I would ask you for your indulgence.

This would be Betsy Smith, and she is here to testify on Bill Number 15, which is House Bill 6266, An Act Concerning the Practice of Acupuncture.

I might ask of the committee to take her testimony and if you have questions, perhaps, also, respect her need to get on her plane to go back to warm and sunny Florida, maybe she'll take us with her. Ms. Smith.

BETSY SMITH: Thank you very much. And thank you very much for the courtesy that you're providing in allowing me to testify early. I am Betsy Smith, Deputy Director of the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, NCCAOM, and I'm here today to speak in support of HB 626 -- 6266, that would allow -- ensure the title protections for acupuncturists. NCCAOM has developed a set of verified entry-level standards for safe and competent practice of acupuncture including three separate examinations. Because we offer the only nationally recognized examination certification programs in acupuncture, we're

in continuous contact with state regulatory boards throughout the US.

At present, 95 percent of the states that regulate acupuncture require and NCCAOM examinations for licensure, including Connecticut. In almost every regulated state, initial legislation includes title protection. Title protection is a normal component of the laws of healthcare practices, including medical doctors, chiropractors, nurses, physical therapists and others. This protection should be there for acupuncturists as well. The extent of their knowledge and education sets them apart even from those who have the right to use acupuncture in their practices. For example, in order to qualify for NCCAOM certification, applicants must meet extensive academic and practical standards. The following is a summary of the requirements that applicants for certification in acupuncture are required to meet. Graduate from a master's program that is accredited by the accreditation commission for acupuncture and oriental medicine, ACOM.

ACOM is the only agency accredited for this purpose by the US Department of Education. Complete a minimum of 1905 hours of education which represents three hours of education including 660 hours of clinical training, as well as 450 hours in biomedical clinical sciences. This is in addition to successfully passing three examinations including a separate examination in biomedicine. We consider these standards of eligibility as well as a successful performance on examinations to be the minimum requirements for the state practice of acupuncture.

And since my time is up, I would say that basically, I think that this profession

deserves this protection. They have the education, the training to be called licensed acupuncturists and to be the only group that has -- that is allowed to use that title.

Thank you very much. I'm sorry I can't bring the sun and warmth with me.

REP. RITTER: Thank you. Are there any question -- do you have time for questions for the committee?

BETSY SMITH: Yes, I do. I do.

REP. RITTER: Representative Bartlett.

REP. BARTLETT: Thank you, Madam Chair.

I just want to understand, so right now you don't have this --

BETSY SMITH: Protection.

REP. BARTLETT: -- title, and you're an acupuncturist. What would be the -- what do you have to do to get to this point? I mean, how far off are folks?

BETSY SMITH: Well, definitely they are licensed acupuncturists, and they'll be speaking here following me, I guess. But the problem is that other -- other healthcare practices that are allowed to use acupuncture as a modality within their practices have taken the liberty, or there's no -- there's nothing to prevent them from calling themselves licensed acupuncturists, however, they don't have the training. Some may have as -- some may have 100, 300 hours of training in acupuncture, but that, in now way, compares to a master's degree in this area, and all of these are western medicines based and that's entirely

different than the eastern or Oriental medicine that a true acupuncturist practices.

REP. BARTLETT: Okay. I'm sure I'll have more questions. Thank you.

REP. RITTER: Questions from the committee?

Senator Harris.

SENATOR HARRIS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

I just want to say I just pulled up through the modern technology that a freeze hit Florida citrus in the last couple of days, so apparently the oranges are not quite as optimistic as some people here.

But anyway, there was a low 43 also.

BETSY SMITH: I know we think 43 is freezing.

REP. RITTER: Are there any other questions from the committee?

I want to particularly thank you for your patience. I know it's been a long day waiting to make a plane, and our process is not always the friendliest for folks that are here to testify.

Thank you very much.

BETSY SMITH: Thank you very much.

REP. RITTER: I'll return to our assigned order, and we're up to House Bill 6262, An Act Concerning Regional Action Councils. And the first speaker will be Pamela Motti and she will be followed by Maryanne Van Aken.

PAMELA MOTTI: Good afternoon, Senator Harris,

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particular procedure.

GINA CARUCCI: Absolutely. I do that every day with my informed consent process.

SENATOR HARRIS: Thank you.

REP. RITTER: Are there any other questions from the committee?

Thank you very much.

GINA CARUCCI: Thank you.

REP. RITTER: Next to testify will be Joe Pandolfo, and he would be followed by Regina Walsh.

JOE PANDOLFO: Good evening, Representative Ritter, Senator Harris and members of the committee. I'm Joe Pandolfo from Mansfield, and I'm commenting tonight, on behalf of the Connecticut Society of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine on House Bill 6266, which adds a title protection to the existing acupuncture law.

We'd just like to thank the committee for raising this bill, and we do have a word change that we'd like to request to the raised bill, which is described in handout that I've circulated around to the committee, so I won't go into a great deal of detail here in the interest of time. And I know that others speaking after me, will talk about why the bill is important for patients and for practitioners. So I'll just add a comment or two about why this particular bill is important, for the integrity and completeness of the Practice laws themselves.

Looking at the Connecticut Practice laws, the most important thing to point out is that the

acupuncturist law is virtually the only one today that doesn't have a title protection in it. So we feel this bill, kind of, first and foremost, corrects kind of glaring error, an inequitable error, in the current laws. And the title protection is especially important in the case of acupuncture care, because of the too levels of care that are practiced. One the one hand, there are a number of health professions that more and more integrate specific select acupuncture techniques in their way of doing medicine, and then on the other hand, there are the folks who need the requirements in the current law. The training requirements, the exam requirements, that Betsy Ritter spoke of earlier, that are nationally recognized for the practice of the full modality of acupuncture and oriental medicine. And although the law is specific in laying out those requirements, for the people who want to obtain the license as an acupuncturist, the law doesn't quite close the loop and reserve the title of acupuncturist for those folks who are actually doing the work of an acupuncturist. So we feel this law remedies that problem.

And at the bottom, I mean, the real issue here is just giving consumers consistent and accurate information about the people who they're going to see for treatment, and about the kind of treatment they're getting.

So I will leave my comments at that, and thank you, again, for your time and your consideration of the bill.

REP. RITTER: Thank you very much.

Are there question from the committee?

Thank you. Have a good evening.

And the next person to speak is Regina Walsh followed by Christine Rizzo.

REGINA WALSH: Good evening Madam Chair, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. Well, now I know what you all do here. Thank you for your perseverance and hanging with us tonight.

I'm a licensed acupuncturist from New Canaan, and a board member of the Connecticut Society of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, csaom.org. I've been practicing here for 10 years. I was nationally board certified in acupuncture in 1994, after a rigorous three years of acupuncture education, earning a master's in acupuncture.

In the beginning years of my practice, I apprenticed with a senior acupuncturist, taking monthly classes for several years. I take continuing education classes yearly to deepen my knowledge. Mastery of this medicine is the lifelong pursuit. For the past 10 years, I volunteered on the board on the Board of Directors of two of our national membership organizations whose admission is to promote the excellence and integrity in the professional practice of acupuncture in oriental medicine, in order to enhance public health and well-being. Practicing Acupuncture is my life's passion and commitment to a service of the highest standard.

I am honored to call myself a licensed Acupuncturist. An honor that comes from a 5,000 year history of oriental medicine passed on to me by a 30-year history in this country of teachers and institutions of learning committed to excellence.

I'm here to ask you to help us ensure that the residents in Connecticut receive the best care available to them. Unfortunately, there are no legal requirements or oversight by the National Commission for the Certification of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine for the other healthcare professions in Connecticut, which are allowed to practice acupuncture. This is extremely important legislation because it prevents other professions from representing themselves as if they the same amount of education and oversight as licensed acupuncturists.

I am asking you to support the amendment to the present legislation of House Bill 6266 contouring -- concerning title protection. The bottom line here is that consumers need a way of identifying who is giving them their healthcare. I want people to clearly understand, that they have chosen either a license acupuncturist with my level training or they have chosen somebody with less training.

Thank you very much.

REP. RITTER: Thank you, for you testimony.

Are there questions from the committee?

I think we're getting questioned out here.

Thank you.

Then next speaker will be Christine Ruzzo followed by Jodie Eisman.

CHRISTINE RUZZO: Madam Chair, Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee. For the record, name is Christine Ruzzo. I'm from New London and I'm speaking in support of Bill Number

6266, An Act Concerning the Practice of  
Acupuncture.

I have a master's degree in traditional Chinese medicine. I'm a licensed acupuncturist and certified herbalist. I currently have a private practice in Old Saybrook. I'm a member of the Connecticut Acupuncturist Society.

Nine years ago, I entered a field of medicine that was still struggling for recognition. I did this because I believed, as a matter of common sense, in a form of medicine that is still being practiced today, more than 3,000 years after its origins, by one of the largest populations on our planet. Acupuncture is a vast part of an enormous body of accumulated knowledge.

I spent more than 3,400 hours obtaining my master's degree. Since graduating, I have continuously studied with scholars of Chinese medicine. I know there's more to learn and more depths to discover. I treasure my teachers, my education, and the training, especially now, as I watch my profession finally beginning to gain the recognition I knew it would when I started on this path.

This month marks my fifth year in practice. Since beginning my practice, I have seen acupuncture becoming a large and growing part of integrated medicine. I've seen a growing demand for acupuncturists at doctor's offices, outpatient clinics, and even hospitals.

The number of acupuncturists is growing in response to this demand. This bill, Title Protection for Acupuncturists, it's common sense; a basic part of a professional licensure. It is necessary for a field of

medicine like mine, one that is maturing and becoming an integral part of healthcare in this state and throughout the country.

My hope is that you will adopt this bill and allow my profession to find its way as such.

Thank you very much.

REP. RITTER: Thank you very much.

Are there any questions from the committee?

Yes, Representative Lyddy.

REP. LYDDY: Hello. You know when we talk about title protection. I think what we're really talking about is consumer protection, because people need to know who's providing that service.

Are we moving in a direction -- maybe; this more for the chair -- in this bill to have an acupuncturist, a licensed acupuncturist but still have another medical professional perform acupuncture?

CHRISTINE RUZZO: Yeah. We're not limiting any of the other medical professions in their practice of acupuncture as a technique.

REP. LYDDY: Great, Okay. That's it.

Thank you so much.

CHRISTINE RUZZO: You're welcome. Thank you.

REP. RITTER: Any further questions?

No. Thank you for your testimony.

Next I'd like to call Jodie Eisman, to be

follow by Steven Jacob.

Why thank you so much. I would next like to call Steven Jacob. He will be followed by Paul Creech.

STEVEN JACOB: Madam Chair, and members of the committee, my name is Steven Jacob. I am a nationally licensed acupuncturist, and I have state licenses in the state of New Mexico, New York and Connecticut.

I live and have a private practice in the town of Guilford, and I'm here in support of HB 6266, An Act Concerning Title Protection for Acupuncturists. I've earned my -- my bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland, and after some interesting circumstances, my desire to become a doctor shifted from western to eastern.

I attended an acupuncture school, and this school was accredited by the Department of Education. Because of this accreditation, I was able to receive guarantee student loans, Stafford student loans, and supplemental student loans, just like anybody else needing financial aid for any other type of graduate program, and note, I'm still paying off my loans.

Now to become a nationally recognized acupuncturist, there's many requirements to do so. It was spoken earlier, I need 1900 hundred hours nationally. My school was 2500 hours. I need 660 clinical hours, I partook in. I had 900 clinical hours. I also need to pass a clean needle exam, which is regulated by OSHA, and the clean needle -- the regulation stipulates how I dispose of and care of needles. Also with clean needle, there was -- in my national exam, there's a

section on clean needle, there's a written part and a practical in that my national exam is a two-day exam.

Ninety-five percent of the states in this country use national exam as their form of licensure. The states I'm licensed in, New Mexico, New York and Connecticut all use the accreditation of this national committee for licensing.

Now the reason I'm mentioning all the requirements is for a couple of different reasons. One is, I want to impress -- impress upon the committee the rigor that one must go through to be considered a nationally licensed acupuncturist. And specifically, to this committee, a nationally licensed acupuncturist that applies to Connecticut through the Department of Health, would be a Connecticut Licensed Acupuncturist. The other -- one of the other reasons I'm mentioning this is because that there are other professions that already have the benefit of title protection in the state of the Connecticut, that have far fewer hours in regards to their educational requirements in order for them to be considered licensed in the state of Connecticut.

And third, and most important, is back to title protection. That without this bill, ultimately a law, anyone can call themselves licensed acupuncturists. They -- they won't be licensed or regulated by the Department of Health, but there's -- there's no law stopping anyone from taking an acupressure class, using needles and say they're an acupuncturist.

You have consumers then going to the services thinking they're actually receiving a service from a -- someone of equal education.



*Public Protection Through Quality Credentials*

February 4, 2009

Public Health Committee  
Legislative Office Building, Room 3000  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Committee Members:



*Public Protection Through  
Quality Credentials*

National Certification  
Commission for Acupuncture  
and Oriental Medicine

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904-598-1005 Ext 2467  
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**Betsy Smith**  
*Deputy Director*

Good afternoon. I am Betsy Smith, Deputy Director of the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM). I am here today to speak on behalf of the NCCAOM in support of House Bill # 6266 that would ensure title protection for acupuncturists in the State of Connecticut.

Our organization has developed a set of verified, entry-level standards for the safe and competent practice of acupuncture, including three separate examinations. We offer the only nationally recognized examination/certification program in acupuncture and we are in continuous contact with state regulatory boards throughout the United States. At present 95% of the states that regulate acupuncture require the NCCAOM examinations for licensure.

In almost every regulated state, initial legislation includes title protection. Title protection is a normal component of the laws of healthcare practices including medical doctors, chiropractors, nurses, physical therapists and other healthcare professionals. It is clearly against the law to utilize a medical title if national standards required by the profession have not been met. This protection should cover acupuncturists as well. The extent of their knowledge and education sets them apart even from those who have the right to use acupuncture in their practices. For example, in order to qualify for NCCAOM certification, applicants must meet extensive academic and practical standards. The following is a summary of the requirements that applicants for Certification in Acupuncture are required to meet:

- Graduate from a full-time Masters program that is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ACAOM). ACAOM is the only agency accredited for this purpose by the United States Department of Education.
- Complete a minimum of 1,905 hours of education which represents three years of formal education including 660 hours of clinical training as well as 450 hours in biomedical clinical sciences.
- Pass three examinations including biomedicine. The biomedicine examination ensures that the acupuncturist has the knowledge to understand when to refer a patient to a doctor or other healthcare practitioner for a diagnostic

evaluation. In addition, it allows acupuncturists to converse knowledgeably with western medical practitioners.

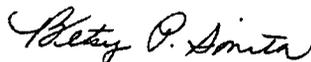
We consider these standards of eligibility to be the minimum requirements for the safe practice of acupuncture. The practice of acupuncture is more than merely placing needles at various points for different conditions. Assurance of safe and effective therapeutic outcomes from acupuncture treatments rely on having a practitioner who is applying a system of functional medicine that uses a diagnostic and treatment approach that is significantly different from existing Western medicine practice. It is from such a knowledge base that acupuncture's full efficacy and value can be realized by the public.

The right of the healthcare consumer to get what they are expecting in terms of training and education in healthcare should be ensured, and that includes acupuncture, along with every other healthcare practice. This bill will not prevent other healthcare practitioners whose scope includes acupuncture from using it as one of their modalities; however, it does offer protection to healthcare consumers seeking the services of someone who is licensed as an acupuncturist in Connecticut. It helps to prevent those who do not meet recognized national standards for education and examination from being confused with those who do.

Bill #6266 amends the original legislation to be in line with title protection routinely accepted in other forms of health practice in Connecticut. In addition, Bill #6266, as written includes language that protects the right of other healthcare practitioners to use acupuncture as allowed by their scope of practice. This correction to the original legislation will bring acupuncture in line with other healthcare practices as currently regulated and it ensures that acupunctures' full efficacy and value can be realized by the public.

Thank you for your time and attention. If I can answer any questions you may have, please contact me by email at [bsmith@nccaom.org](mailto:bsmith@nccaom.org), or by phone at 904-674-2467.

Sincerely,



Betsy P. Smith  
Deputy Director

## Governing Regulatory Agencies

State	Type of Regulatory Agency	Type of Regulatory Agency 2	Regulatory Agency Name	Additional Regulatory Agency Name	Practice Act Requirement	Requires NCCAOM Certification	Website
AL	None	N/A	None	N/A	No	No	N/A
AK	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Department of Commerce & Economic Development	N/A	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/occ/pacu.htm">http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/occ/pacu.htm</a>
AZ	Independent Board	N/A	Arizona Board of Acupuncture Examiners	N/A	Yes	No	<a href="http://www.azacuboard.az.gov/">http://www.azacuboard.az.gov/</a>
AR	Independent Board	N/A	Arkansas State Board of Acupuncture & Related Techniques	N/A	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.asbart.org/">http://www.asbart.org/</a>
CA	Independent Board	N/A	California Acupuncture Board	N/A	Yes	No	<a href="http://www.acupuncture.ca.gov/">http://www.acupuncture.ca.gov/</a>
CO	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Dept of Regulatory Agencies - Office of Acupunctur	N/A	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.dora.state.co.us/">http://www.dora.state.co.us/</a>
CT	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Department of Public Health, Acupuncturist License	N/A	Yes	No	<a href="http://www.ct.gov/dph/site/default.asp">http://www.ct.gov/dph/site/default.asp</a>
DE	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Board of Medical Practice	N/A	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://dpr.delaware.gov/boards/medical/practice/index.shtml">dpr.delaware.gov/boards/medical/practice/index.shtml</a>
FL	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Medical Quality Assurance, Board of Acupuncture	N/A	Yes	No	<a href="http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/index.html">http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/index.html</a>
GA	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Composite State Board of Medical Examiners	N/A	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://medicalboard.georgia.gov/02/csbme/home">http://medicalboard.georgia.gov/02/csbme/home</a>
HI	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs	N/A	Yes	No	<a href="http://hawaii.gov/dcca/areas/pvl">http://hawaii.gov/dcca/areas/pvl</a>
ID	Independent Board	N/A	Idaho State Board of Acupuncture	N/A	Yes	No	<a href="http://www.lbol.idaho.gov/acu.htm">http://www.lbol.idaho.gov/acu.htm</a>
IL	Other Regulatory Agency	Advisory Committee	Illinois Department of Professional Regulation	Joint Committee on Administrative Rules	Yes	No	<a href="http://www.idfpr.com/dpr/default.asp">http://www.idfpr.com/dpr/default.asp</a>
IN	Other Regulatory Agency	Advisory Committee	Professional Licensing Agency	Indiana Acupuncture Advisory Committee	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.in.gov/pla/acupuncture.htm">http://www.in.gov/pla/acupuncture.htm</a>
IO	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Iowa Board of Medicine, Acupuncture License	N/A	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://medicalboard.iowa.gov/AcupLic.html">http://medicalboard.iowa.gov/AcupLic.html</a>
KS	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Kansas State Board of Healing Arts	N/A	No	No	<a href="http://www.ksbha.org/">http://www.ksbha.org/</a>
KY	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure	N/A	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://kbml.ky.gov/">http://kbml.ky.gov/</a>
LA	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners	N/A	Yes	No	<a href="http://www.lsbme.louisiana.gov/Acupuncturists.htm">http://www.lsbme.louisiana.gov/Acupuncturists.htm</a>
ME	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Maine Dept. of Professional and Financial Reg	N/A	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.state.me.us/pfr/professionallicensing/index">www.state.me.us/pfr/professionallicensing/index</a>
MD	Independent Board	N/A	Maryland State Board of Acupuncture	N/A	Yes	No	<a href="http://dhrmh.state.md.us/bacc/">http://dhrmh.state.md.us/bacc/</a>
MA	Other Regulatory Agency	Advisory Committee	Board of Registration in Medicine	Committee on Acupuncture	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.massmedboard.org/acupuncture/">http://www.massmedboard.org/acupuncture/</a>
MI	Independent Board	N/A	Michigan Association of Acupuncture and OM	N/A	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.michiganacupuncture.org/">http://www.michiganacupuncture.org/</a>
MN	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Minnesota Board of Medical Practice	N/A	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.state.mn.us">http://www.state.mn.us</a>
MS	None	N/A	None	N/A	No	No	N/A
MO	Other Regulatory Agency	Advisory Committee	Missouri Division of Professional Registration	Missouri Acupuncturist Advisory Cmte	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://pr.mo.gov/acupuncturist.asp">http://pr.mo.gov/acupuncturist.asp</a>
MT	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Montana Board of Medical Examiners	N/A	Yes	No	<a href="http://mt.gov/">http://mt.gov/</a>
NB	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Nebraska Dept of Health & Human Services	N/A	Yes	No	<a href="http://www.hhs.state.ne.us/">http://www.hhs.state.ne.us/</a>
NV	Independent Board	N/A	Nevada State Board of Oriental Medicine	N/A	Yes	No	<a href="http://oriental_medicine.state.nv.us/">http://oriental_medicine.state.nv.us/</a>
NH	Independent Board	N/A	New Hampshire Board of Acupuncture Licensing	N/A	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.nh.gov/acupuncture/board.htm">http://www.nh.gov/acupuncture/board.htm</a>
NJ	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners	Acupuncture Examining Board	Yes	No	<a href="http://www.state.nj.us/ps/ca/acupuncture/">http://www.state.nj.us/ps/ca/acupuncture/</a>
NM	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	New Mexico Regulation & Licensing Department	Board of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine	Yes	No	<a href="http://www.rld.state.nm.us/acupuncture/index.html">http://www.rld.state.nm.us/acupuncture/index.html</a>
NY	Other Regulatory Agencies	N/A	New York State Education Department, Office of Pro	Division of Professional Licensing Services	Yes	No	<a href="http://www.op.nysed.gov/acupun.htm">http://www.op.nysed.gov/acupun.htm</a>
NC	Independent Board	N/A	North Carolina Acupuncture Licensing Board	N/A	Yes	No	<a href="http://www.ncalb.com/">http://www.ncalb.com/</a>
ND	None	N/A	None	N/A	No	No	N/A
OH	Other Regulatory Agency	Advisory Committee	State Medical Board of Ohio	Acupuncture Advisory Committee	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://med.ohio.gov/ACUsubwebIndex.htm">http://med.ohio.gov/ACUsubwebIndex.htm</a>
OK	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure	N/A	No	No	<a href="http://www.osbmls.state.ok.us/">http://www.osbmls.state.ok.us/</a>
OR	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Oregon Medical Board	N/A	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.oregon.gov/OMB/">http://www.oregon.gov/OMB/</a>
PA	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs	N/A	Yes	No	<a href="http://www.dos.state.pa.us/bpoa/site/default.asp">http://www.dos.state.pa.us/bpoa/site/default.asp</a>
RI	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Rhode Island Department of Health	Office of Health Professionals Regulation	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.health.state.ri.us/hsr/professions/">http://www.health.state.ri.us/hsr/professions/</a>
SC	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	South Carolina Dept of Labor, Licensing & Regulat	N/A	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.lir.state.sc.us/POL/Medical/">http://www.lir.state.sc.us/POL/Medical/</a>
SD	None	N/A	None	N/A	No	No	N/A
TN	Other Regulatory Agency	Advisory Committee	Tennessee Department of Health	Advisory Committee for Acupuncture	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://health.state.tn.us/providers.htm">http://health.state.tn.us/providers.htm</a>
TX	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Texas Medical Board	Healthcare Professionals - Acupuncturists	Yes	No	<a href="http://www.tmb.state.tx.us/professionals/">http://www.tmb.state.tx.us/professionals/</a>
UT	Other Regulatory Agencies	N/A	Utah Division of Occupational and Professional Lic	Licensed Acupuncturist	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.dopl.utah.gov/licensing/">http://www.dopl.utah.gov/licensing/</a>
VT	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Vermont Office of Professional Regulation	N/A	Yes	No	<a href="http://vtprofessionals.org/opr1/acupuncturists/">http://vtprofessionals.org/opr1/acupuncturists/</a>
VA	Other Regulatory Agency	Advisory Committee	Virginia Board of Medicine	Acupuncture Advisory Board	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.dhp.state.va.us/medicine/">http://www.dhp.state.va.us/medicine/</a>
WA	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Washington State Department of Health	N/A	Yes	No	<a href="http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/">http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/</a>
WA D C	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	Health Professional Licensing Administration	N/A	Yes	No	<a href="http://hpla.doh.dc.gov/hpla/site/default.asp">http://hpla.doh.dc.gov/hpla/site/default.asp</a>
WV	Independent Board	N/A	West Virginia Board of Acupuncture	N/A	Yes	No	<a href="http://www.wvs.state.wv.us/acupuncture/">http://www.wvs.state.wv.us/acupuncture/</a>
WI	Other Regulatory Agency	N/A	State of Wisconsin Dept of Regulation & Licensing	N/A	Yes	No	<a href="http://drt.wi.gov/boards/ria/index.htm">http://drt.wi.gov/boards/ria/index.htm</a>
WY	None	N/A	None	N/A	No	No	N/A

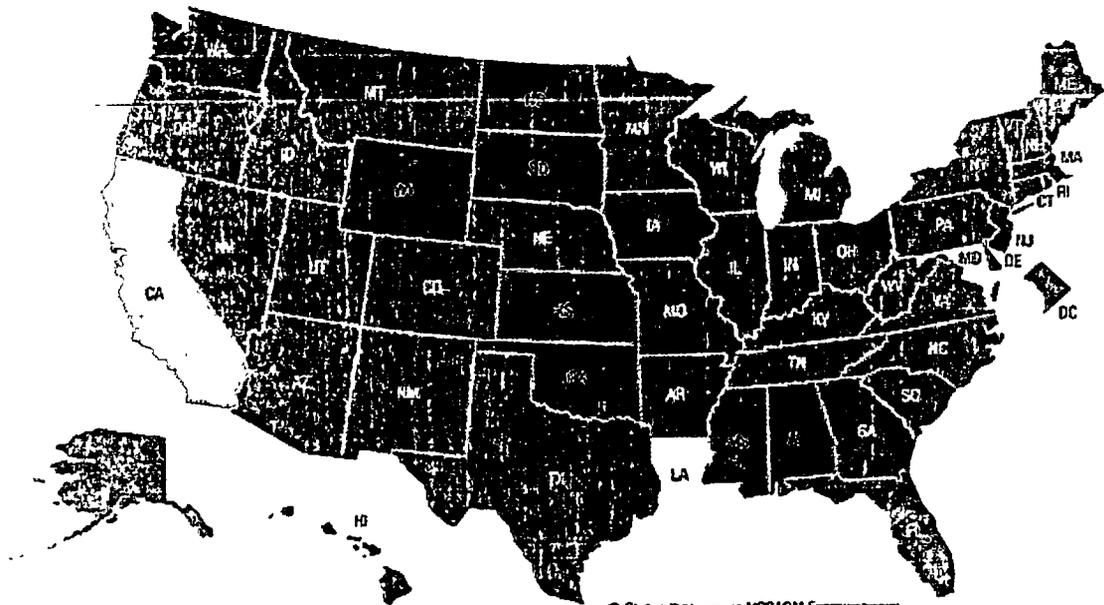
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Public Protection Through Quality Credentials

January 2009

States Using NCCAOM Examinations for Acupuncture Licensure



- States that require NCCAOM Examinations
- States that accept NCCAOM Examinations
- State Examination only
- States without a Practice Regulating Acupuncture

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— Original Message —

**From:** Joe Pandolfo

**To:** Rep Ritter Elizabeth , [harris@senatedems.ct.gov](mailto:harris@senatedems.ct.gov)

**Cc:** [beverlyhenry@cga.ct.gov](mailto:beverlyhenry@cga.ct.gov) ; [jacquelinecaron@cga.ct.gov](mailto:jacquelinecaron@cga.ct.gov)

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 03, 2009 8:17 AM

**Subject:** Re: Acupuncturist Legislation

Dear Representative Ritter, Senator Harris:

Thank you for this information and helping us navigate the process. And, again, thank you for raising our bill (HB 6266-AAC the Practice of Acupuncture).

Checking the raised bill text as you've suggested, I do see there is an omission which is important to correct. Would you please help us make this correction at the proper time/stage in the process?

Specifically, our original proposal included a statement that persons without the acupuncturist license cannot advertise services under the description of "Acupuncturist". That text was included to add clarity around one of the main consumer information problems that our proposal is meant to remedy. We feel some important clarity is lost without this detail.

We also feel this detail is important to clarify the corresponding advertising statement in the existing raised bill text, that other professionals are not prevented from advertising services within their scope or authorization. While we recognize that other professionals are permitted to perform acupuncture techniques within the confines of their own profession's standards, one doesn't hold the title of acupuncturist unless s/he obtains the acupuncture license. Without both corresponding advertising statements, the bill doesn't make clear that advertising practice must be consistent with the titling practice.

As suggested, I've included below the wording change we're requesting (red underline text). This text is modeled from similar title protection text in the Respiratory Care Therapist practice law

Generally we're very pleased with the progress of the bill. We look forward to attending Friday's public hearing, and expect some at-large members of the CSAOM to also attend and speak in favor of the bill. It will be the first public hearing for many, so I've circulated CGA Citizen Guide information to the members planning to attend.

Again, thank you, and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions that I can help with,

Sincerely,

Joe Pandolfo

wkdays/office: 226-8454

home: 860-423-2646, [joelpan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joelpan@sbcglobal.net)

**REQUESTED BILL TEXT CHANGE**

General Assembly  
January Session, 2009

**Raised Bill No. 6266**

LCO No. 2514

\*02514 \_\_\_\_\_ PH\_\*

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:  
(PH)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRACTICE OF ACUPUNCTURE.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 20-206bb of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (j) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

(NEW) (j) No person shall use the title "acupuncturist", or use in connection with his or her name, any letters, words or insignia indicating or implying that such person is a licensed acupuncturist or advertise services as an "Acupuncturist", unless such person holds a license as an acupuncturist issued pursuant to this section. No person shall represent himself or herself as being certified to practice auricular acupuncture for the treatment of alcohol and drug abuse, or use in connection with his or her name the term "acupuncture detoxification specialist", or the letters "A.D.S." or any letters, words or insignia indicating or implying that such person is certified to practice auricular acupuncture for the treatment of alcohol and drug abuse unless such person is certified in accordance with subsection (h) of this section. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent a person from providing care, or performing or advertising services within the scope of such person's license or as otherwise authorized in this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1      *October 1, 2009*                      20-206bb

***Statement of Purpose:***

To ensure that state residents have an accurate and consistent way to recognize the qualifications of acupuncture practitioners.



Christine Rizzo, M.S. L.Ac. C.H.  
 Acupuncture and Chinese Herbal Medicine  
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February 6, 2009

Senator Jonathan Harris  
 Representative Elizabeth Ritter  
 Public Health Committee

Hello Mr. Chairman, Madam Chair and members of the committee,

My name is Christine Rizzo, I am from New London and I am speaking IN SUPPORT of bill number 6266 An Act Concerning the Practice of Acupuncture

I have a master's degree in Traditional Chinese Medicine. I am a Licensed Acupuncturist and a Certified Herbalist. I currently have a private practice in Old Saybrook. I am a member of the Connecticut Society of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.

Nine years ago I entered a field of medicine that was still struggling for recognition. I did this because I believed, as a matter of common sense, in a form of medicine that is still being practiced today - more than 3000 years after its known origins - by one of the largest populations on our planet. Acupuncture is a vast part of an enormous body of accumulated knowledge.

I accumulated more than 3400 hours attaining my master's degree in Traditional Chinese Medicine and since graduating I have continuously studied with scholars of Chinese medicine, themselves in practice for more than 20 years. And I know, there is still more to learn and more depth to discover. I treasure my teachers, my education and my training. Especially now as I watch my profession finally begin to gain the recognition I knew it would, nine years ago when I started on this path. This month marks my fifth year in practice.

Since beginning my practice I have seen acupuncture become a large and growing part of integrated medicine. I have seen a growing demand for acupuncturists at doctors' offices, out patient facilities, and in hospitals. The number of acupuncturists is growing in response to this demand. This bill, title protection for Acupuncturists, it is common sense, a basic part of a professional licensure. It is necessary for a field of medicine like mine, one that is maturing and becoming an integrated part of healthcare in this state and throughout the country. It is my hope that you will adopt this bill and allow my profession to find its way as such.

Thank you.

Christine Rizzo

christinerizzo@yahoo.com • connecticut-acupuncture.com • 860 961 5560

