

House Concurrent Resolution No. 24

93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

5246L.011

2 **Whereas**, the lack of health care availability in the State of Missouri in unserved
3 or under served areas compromises individual and state solvency, including depleting limited
4 Medicaid resources; and

5 **Whereas**, the State of Missouri recognizes that naturopathic doctors comprise a
6 distinct health care profession that affects the public health, safety, and welfare and increases
7 freedom of choice in qualified health care; and

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9 **Whereas**, significant cost savings to the State of Missouri will result from
10 implementing a system of primary health care for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of
11 human health conditions, injury, and disease, the promotion or restoration of health, and the
12 support and stimulation of a patient's inherent self-healing processes through patient education
13 and the use of natural therapies and therapeutic substances; and

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15 **Whereas**, consistent with education and training, physical and laboratory
16 examinations, diagnostic and image testing, dispensing, administering, and prescribing
17 prescription drugs and medical devices are necessary elements to the provision of quality health
18 care; and

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20 **Whereas**, it is a matter of public interest and concern that naturopathic physicians
21 and the practice of naturopathic medicine merit and receive the confidence of the public, that
22 only qualified persons be authorized to practice naturopathic medicine in the State of Missouri,
23 and that no person practices naturopathic medicine as a naturopathic doctor, naturopathic
24 physician, or naturopath without a valid existing license to do so; and

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26 **Whereas**, the practice of naturopathic medicine in the State of Missouri affects the
27 public, safety, and welfare and, in the public interest, needs to be regulated and controlled:

28 **Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the members of the House of
29 Representatives of the Ninety-third General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate
30 concurring therein, hereby request that the Governor establish the "Board of Naturopathic
31 Medical Examiners" to determine the scope of the practice of naturopathic physicians for the
32 purpose of performing physical and laboratory examinations consistent with naturopathic
33 education and training and for diagnostic purposes, including but not limited to phlebotomy,
34 clinical laboratory tests, orificial examinations, and physiological function tests; and

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36 **Be it further resolved** that the board shall be comprised of five members,
37 appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Four members of the
38 board shall be licensed doctors of naturopathic medicine or naturopathic physicians who are in
39 good standing in the State of Missouri and one member shall be a resident of Missouri who is
40 not nor has ever been a licensed health care practitioner and who does not have an interest in
41 naturopathic education, business, or practice. The four doctors of naturopathic medicine
42 comprising the initial board shall hold a current naturopathic license from another state in
43 addition to meeting all criteria previously specified. The board may adopt such rules as are
44 necessary to implement the purposes of the board and may recommend disciplinary action; and

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46 **Be it further resolved** that only a person who has received a doctor of
47 naturopathy from a naturopathic medical education program in the United States or Canada that
48 is:

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50 (1) Accredited or has achieved candidacy status for accreditation by the Council on
51 Naturopathic Medical Education, or an equivalent federally-recognized accrediting body for the
52 naturopathic medical profession, shall hold a license to practice and hold himself or herself out
53 to be a naturopathic physician or use any naturopathic professional designation as designated by
54 the board. Such medical education program shall offer graduate-level full-time didactic and
55 supervised clinical training leading to a degree of Doctor of Naturopathy or Doctor of
56 Naturopathic Medicine. Additionally, the program shall be an institution or part of an institution
57 of higher education that is accredited or a candidate for accreditation by a regional institutional
58 accrediting agency recognized by the United States Secretary of Education; or

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60 (2) A degree-granting college or university that, prior to the existence of the Council on
61 Naturopathic Medical Education, offered a full-time structured curriculum in basic sciences and
62 supervised patient care comprising a doctoral naturopathic medical education. Such course, as
63 a prerequisite for graduation, shall not be less than 132 weeks in duration and shall require

64 completion within a period of not less than 35 months. Such college of naturopathic medicine
65 shall be reputable and in good standing in the judgment of the board; and

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67 **Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
68 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Governor
69 Matt Blunt.