



SUPPORT LICENSURE EXTENSION FOR NAPRAPATH DOCTORS House Bill 5027 (Mah) Senate Bill 4016 (Jones)

Naprapathy facilitates the recuperative and regenerative processes of the body and treats pain resulting from connective tissue disorders.

Naprapaths are connective tissue specialists. Patients seek care for issues such as sciatica, low back pain, carpal tunnel syndrome and knee pain. Similar to Chiropractors, Naprapaths treat neurological and skeletal disorders, *but also* treat the ligaments, tendons and muscles that connect the skeleton. Patients receive gentle manipulation that loosens and relaxes constricted joints, including the spine. Naprapaths also provide nutritional counseling to complement treatments.

Naprapaths have been licensed in Illinois since 1992. The licensure statute is set to expire on January 1, 2023. Legislative action is required this spring to maintain the licensure.

Increased Naprapath education and training. Naprapaths currently must have two years college level credits followed by three or four years of coursework focused on Naprapathy. The proposed legislation will increase the two years college level credits to four years starting in 2028.

Naprapath's scope of practice is limited to diagnosing and treating connective tissue disorders. All other patient symptoms require referral to a physician.

"Naprapathy addresses musculoskeletal conditions that typically go untreated... cause pain and can be so helped... treating them with gentle manual therapy." Lydia Trusso, Naprapathic student 2020

Doctors of Naprapathic Medicine remain person-oriented, taking time to explain procedures and conditions to the patient, and to enlist the patient's participation in establishing daily healthy habits of proper nutrition, exercise, correct posture, sound body.

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