

Chapter 115

2026 Regular Session

Subject Regulation of Health Occupations

Bill H.F. 3825

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Article 1: Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine Practice

This article makes changes to statutes governing acupuncture practitioners and the practice of acupuncture and herbal medicine, removes references to the term “Oriental” from statute, and updates the name of the certification organization for acupuncture practitioners.

Section	Description - Article 1: Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine Practice
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| 1 | Complementary and alternative health care practices.
Amends § 146A.01, subd. 4. Removes the term “Oriental” from a list of methods and treatments included in the definition of complementary and alternative health care practices. |
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Section Description - Article 1: Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine Practice

- 2 Acupuncture.**
Adds subd. 2a to § 147B.01. In the chapter governing licensure of acupuncture practitioners, defines acupuncture as a unique treatment technique that uses modern and traditional methods of diagnosis and treatment, and includes insertion of needles through the skin and other biophysical methods of acupressure point stimulation.
- 3 Acupuncture and herbal medicine practice.**
Amends § 147B.01, subd. 3. In the chapter governing licensure of acupuncture practitioners, changes a term defined, from acupuncture practice to acupuncture and herbal medicine practice, and amends the defined term to include herbal medicine.
- 4 Acupuncture needle.**
Amends § 147B.01, subd. 4. Amends the definition of acupuncture needle in the chapter governing licensure of acupuncture practitioners.
- 5 Acupuncture points.**
Amends § 147B.01, subd. 5. Amends the definition of acupuncture points in the chapter governing licensure of acupuncture practitioners to update the name of the acupuncture practitioner certification organization.
- 6 Breathing techniques.**
Amends § 147B.01, subd. 9. In the chapter governing licensure of acupuncture practitioners, amends the definition of breathing techniques by removing the term “Oriental.”
- 7 Diplomat in acupuncture.**
Amends § 147B.01, subd. 12. Amends the definition of diplomat in acupuncture in the chapter governing licensure of acupuncture practitioners to update the name of the acupuncture practitioner certification organization.
- 8 Herbal therapies or herbal medicine.**
Amends § 147B.01, subd. 14. Adds the term “herbal medicine” to the current definition of herbal therapies in the chapter governing licensure of acupuncture practitioners.
- 9 Low-level or cold laser.**
Adds subd. 14a to § 147B.01. Defines low-level or cold laser for the chapter governing licensure of acupuncture practitioners.

Section	Description - Article 1: Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine Practice
10	Low-level or cold laser acupuncture. Adds subd. 14b. to § 147B.01. Defines low-level or cold laser acupuncture for the chapter governing licensure of acupuncture practitioners.
11	NCBAHM. Amends § 147B.01, subd. 16. Updates the acronym for the certification organization for acupuncture practitioners, from NCCAOM (National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine) to NCBAHM (National Certification Board for Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine).
12	NCBAHM certification. Amends § 147.01, subd. 16a. Updates the acronym for the certification organization for acupuncture practitioners in the definition of NCBAHM certification for the chapter governing licensure of acupuncture practitioners.
13	Exceptions. Amends § 147B.02, subd. 4. Updates a term to conform with the term defined in section 147B.01.
14	Licensure requirements. Amends § 147B.02, subd. 7. Updates the acronym for the certification organization for acupuncture practitioners.
15	Renewal. Amends § 147B.02, subd. 9. Updates the acronym for the certification organization for acupuncture practitioners.
16	Inactive status. Amends § 147B.02, subd. 12. Updates the acronym for the certification organization for acupuncture practitioners.
17	NCBAHM requirements. Amends § 147B.03, subd. 1. Updates the acronym for the certification organization for acupuncture practitioners.
18	Board approval. Amends § 147B.03, subd. 2. In a subdivision governing approval by the Board of Medical Practice of continuing education programs for acupuncture practitioners, allows faculty of a continuing education program to have experience in acupuncture and herbal medicine, rather than in traditional Oriental medicine.

Section Description - Article 1: Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine Practice

19 Continuing education topics.

Amends § 147B.03, subd. 3. In a subdivision governing allowable continuing education program topics for acupuncture practitioners, removes the term “Oriental” and instead allows program topics to address acupuncture and herbal medicine theory.

20 Verification.

Amends § 147B.03, subd. 4. Updates the acronym for the certification organization for acupuncture practitioners.

21 Creation.

Amends § 147B.05, subd. 1. Specifies that the acupuncture practitioner members of the Acupuncture Advisory Council must be licensed in Minnesota and updates the acronym for the certification organization for acupuncture practitioners.

22 Duties.

Amends § 147B.05, subd. 3. Updates a term to conform with the term defined in section 147B.01.

23 Practice standards.

Amends § 147B.06, subd. 1. In a subdivision governing acupuncture practitioner practice standards, deletes a requirement for the acupuncture practitioner to provide the patient with information in writing on the practitioner’s qualifications and side effects of acupuncture.

24 Scope of practice.

Amends § 147B.06, subd. 4. Amends the scope of practice of acupuncture and herbal medicine, to specify the practice includes:

- evaluation, management, and treatment using acupuncture and herbal medicine methods and techniques;
- diagnostic examination, testing, and other procedures to guide treatment within the scope of practice for acupuncture and herbal medicine and herbal therapies;
- services included in acupuncture and herbal medicine practice;
- stimulation of acupuncture points, areas of the body, or substances in the body by certain means;
- use of physical medicine modalities, procedures, and devices;
- use of therapeutic exercises, breathing techniques, meditation, biofeedback devices, and other devices; and

Section	Description - Article 1: Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine Practice
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- general dietary guidance provided for wellness and support and that is consistent with acupuncture practitioner education and training.

Provides low-level or cold laser acupuncture must only be performed according to relevant acupuncture accreditation standards and federal law, and low-level or cold laser acupuncture performed on a patient's head must be outside the orbital rim.

25 Patient records.

Amends § 147B.06, subd. 5. In a subdivision governing the content of the patient record an acupuncture practitioner must maintain, removes language requiring the record to include information on a "traditional acupuncture" examination and diagnosis (the record must include information on examination and diagnosis).

26 Licensed health care professionals.

Adds subd. 8 to § 147B.06. Provides that the definition of acupuncture does not expand or restrict the scope of practice of other licensed health care professionals.

27 Repealer.

Repeals § 147B.01, subdivision 18 (the definition of Oriental medicine in the chapter governing licensure of acupuncture practitioners).

Article 2: Athletic Trainer Practice

This article makes changes to statutes governing licensure of athletic trainers.

Section	Description - Article 2: Athletic Trainer Practice
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1 Athletic trainer.

Amends § 148.7802, subd. 6. Amends the definition of athletic trainer for statutes governing licensure of athletic trainers, to specify athletic trainers practice in health care settings and serve patient populations identified by the Board of Certification for the Athletic Trainer and by approved education programs.

2 Athletic training.

Adds subd. 6a to § 148.7802. Defines athletic training for statutes governing licensure of athletic trainers, to mean performing the listed actions to treat emergency, acute, and chronic injuries and nonorthopedic conditions and performed within an athletic trainer's training and experience.

Section Description - Article 2: Athletic Trainer Practice

3 Athletic training.

Amends § 148.7806. Requires an athletic trainer to provide athletic training under the supervision of, on the prescription of, and in collaboration with a primary physician who is licensed in Minnesota and whose license is in good standing. Specifies that an athletic trainer must use therapeutic interventions within the athletic trainer's experience and training, and changes references to individuals treated by athletic trainers from athletes to patients. Adds wellness, education, exercise, and reconditioning to the services not subject to the 30-day limit of time an athletic trainer may treat a patient who was not previously diagnosed, and specifies the 30-day limit does not apply to a patient referred to an athletic trainer by a physical therapist. Requires athletic trainers to monitor a patient's signs, symptoms, and response to treatment; and to make suggestions to the primary physicians or treating provider to modify the patient's treatment and rehabilitation based on these signs, symptoms, and response (current law permits athletic trainers to perform these activities).

4 Limitations on practice.

Amends § 148.7807. Specifies an athletic trainer must not practice medicine, acupuncture, chiropractic, physical therapy except in certain circumstances, podiatry, occupational therapy, or any other licensed or registered health care profession, unless the athletic trainer holds the appropriate license or registration to do so. Adds physical therapists to the professions to which an athletic trainer must refer a patient if the patient's medical condition is outside the athletic trainer's scope of practice.

5 Applicability.

Amends § 148.7814. Provides that Minnesota's athletic trainer licensure requirements do not apply to an athletic trainer who is in Minnesota temporarily for a specific athletic event and who is licensed, certified, or registered by another state or county; or is certified as an athletic trainer by the Board of Certification.

6 Repealer.

Repeals § 148.7802, subdivisions 4 (definition of athlete) and 5 (definition of athletic injury).

Article 3: Massage Therapy and Asian Bodywork Therapy Registration

This article establishes a registration system for massage therapists and Asian bodywork therapists and provides individuals must be registered in order to use protected titles.

Section Description - Article 3: Massage Therapy and Asian Bodywork Therapy Registration

- 1 Criminal history background check requirements.**

Amends § 144.0572, subd. 1. Requires an applicant for initial registration as a massage therapist or Asian bodywork therapist to submit to a criminal history records check by the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and to a national criminal history records check.
- 2 Exchanging information.**

Amends § 146A.06, subd. 3. Effective July 1, 2028, requires the Office of Unlicensed Complementary and Alternative Health Care Practice at the Department of Health to report to the commissioner of health, complaint, investigatory, and disciplinary data on individuals who practiced or are practicing massage therapy or Asian bodywork therapy as unlicensed complementary and alternative health care practitioners. This information must be provided when the commissioner of health requests it.
- 3 Registered massage therapists and Asian bodywork therapists.**

Adds subd. 8 to § 146A.09. Effective July 1, 2028, prohibits an individual whose registration as a massage therapist or Asian bodywork therapist has been revoked or suspended from practicing as an unlicensed complementary and alternative health care practitioner during the period of suspension or revocation.
- 4 Citation.**

Adds § 148.636. Provides sections 148.636 to 148.6377 may be cited as the Minnesota Massage Therapy and Asian Bodywork Therapy Act.
- 5 Definitions.**

Adds § 148.6361. Defines terms: advisory council, applicant, Asian bodywork therapy, client, commissioner, contact hours, credentialing examination, massage therapy, municipality, registered Asian bodywork therapist, registered massage therapist, and registrant.
- 6 Duties of the commissioner.**

Adds § 148.6362. Directs the commissioner of health to issue registrations to practice massage therapy or Asian bodywork therapy, adopt rules to implement registration of massage therapists and Asian bodywork therapists, assign duties to the advisory council, approve a credentialing examination, enforce the registration laws and investigate violations, impose discipline, maintain records of registrants, and distribute information on massage therapy and Asian bodywork therapy standards.
- 7 Limitations on practice.**

Adds § 148.6363. Lists actions that are not included in the practice of massage therapy or Asian bodywork therapy. Requires a massage therapist or Asian bodywork therapist to refer a client to a licensed health care provider if the therapist finds the

Section Description - Article 3: Massage Therapy and Asian Bodywork Therapy Registration

client's medical condition is beyond the massage therapist's or Asian bodywork therapist's scope of practice.

8 Protected titles and restrictions on use.

Adds § 148.6364. Effective January 1, 2028, prohibits a person from using a term or title that may lead the public to believe the person is a registered massage therapist or registered Asian bodywork therapist, unless the person is registered.

9 Exemptions; other health care providers.

Adds § 148.6365. Provides that sections 148.636 to 148.6377 do not:

- regulate the practice of an individual licensed or registered in Minnesota to practice another profession or occupation; or
- regulate an individual providing complementary and alternative health care practices according to chapter 146A, as long as the individual does not use a protected title under section 148.6364.

10 Requirements for registration.

Adds § 148.6366. Lists what an applicant for registration as a massage therapist or Asian bodywork therapist must submit to the commissioner of health. Specifies education requirements for applicants applying for registration before July 1, 2031, and for applicants applying for registration on or after July 1, 2031. Specifies requirements for registration by endorsement and for registration by prior experience for applications received before July 1, 2031. Allows the commissioner to issue a temporary registration to an applicant whose application is complete, to be valid until the commissioner takes action on the applicant's application or for 90 days.

11 Registration renewal.

Adds § 148.6367. Provides massage therapy and Asian bodywork therapy registrations expire two years from the date of issuance, and lists what an applicant for registration renewal must submit to the commissioner of health. Requires massage therapists and Asian bodywork therapists who change addresses to inform the commissioner within 30 days of the change of address. Requires the commissioner to send out a renewal notice at least 60 days before a registration expires. Requires renewal applications and fees to be received by the commissioner or postmarked before the registration expires. Allows the commissioner to place a registration on inactive status, specifies requirements to return a registration to active status and to regain active registration for a registration that lapsed for two years or less, and requires an individual whose registration has lapsed for more than two years to apply for initial registration if the individual wants to return to practice as a massage therapist or Asian bodywork therapist.

Section Description - Article 3: Massage Therapy and Asian Bodywork Therapy Registration

12 Commissioner action on applications.

Adds § 148.6368. Specifies processes for the commissioner to review and act on applications for registration and registration renewal, requires the commissioner to notify applicants in writing of action taken on applications, and allows an applicant denied registration to request review by the advisory council of the commissioner's decision on an application. Lists grounds on which the commissioner must deny registration to an applicant, but allows the commissioner to establish criteria for exceptions.

13 Grounds for disciplinary action.

Adds § 148.6369. Lists grounds on which the commissioner may take registration or disciplinary action against an applicant, massage therapist, or Asian bodywork therapist. Specifies a judgment or proceeding under the seal of the court administrator or an administrative agency is prima facie evidence of a ground for disciplinary action. Allows the commissioner to direct applicants or registrants to submit to a mental or physical examination or substance use disorder evaluation and to obtain medical data and health records relating to a massage therapist, Asian bodywork therapist, or applicant for registration, if the commissioner believes the applicant or registrant is unable to practice with reasonable skill and safety due to mental or physical illness or the use of alcohol or drugs.

14 Disciplinary actions.

Adds § 148.6370. Lists disciplinary actions and actions against registrations the commissioner may take upon a finding that grounds for disciplinary action exist: denying, revoking, or suspending the registration; imposing limits on practice or conditions on the registration; imposing a civil penalty; ordering the provision of free services; censure or reprimand; automatic suspension; and temporary suspension. Permits the applicant or registrant to request a hearing before the commissioner imposes disciplinary action. Allows the commissioner to reissue a registration but impose disciplinary or corrective actions that might have originally been imposed.

15 Reporting obligations.

Adds § 148.6371. Allows persons with knowledge of conduct constituting grounds for disciplinary action regarding massage therapy or Asian bodywork therapy to report the violation to the commissioner. Requires political subdivisions and health care institutions and organizations to report any actions taken on the therapist's privilege to practice or treat clients. Requires professional societies for massage therapy or Asian bodywork therapy to report termination, revocation, or suspension of a therapist's membership or other disciplinary action taken, and to report complaints that might be grounds for disciplinary action. Requires licensed health professionals to report conduct by a therapist reasonably believed to constitute grounds for disciplinary action. Requires insurers to report malpractice settlements or awards

Section Description - Article 3: Massage Therapy and Asian Bodywork Therapy Registration

- against massage therapists or Asian bodywork therapists. Requires courts to report judgments that a therapist is mentally ill, mentally incompetent, or guilty of certain crimes. Requires a therapist to self-report certain actions.
- 16 **Immunity.**
Adds § 148.6372. Provides immunity from civil liability and criminal prosecution to reporters, other than the massage therapist or Asian bodywork therapist who committed the violation, for submitting a report to the commissioner regarding a violation of the registration statutes or for cooperating with investigations. Also provides immunity to the commissioner, employees of the Department of Health, and other persons investigating violations, for the performance of their duties.
- 17 **Cooperation.**
Adds § 148.6373. Requires massage therapists and Asian bodywork therapists who are being investigated by the commissioner to cooperate fully with the investigation. Specifies what cooperation includes. Requires the commissioner to pay for copies requested, requires massage therapists and Asian bodywork therapists to delete data identifying clients before providing records to the commissioner in certain cases, classifies records obtained by the commissioner as investigative data, and provides massage therapists and Asian bodywork therapists are not excused from testifying or producing documents on the ground of self-incrimination.
- 18 **Disciplinary record on judicial review.**
Adds § 148.6374. Upon judicial review of disciplinary action taken by the commissioner, requires the reviewing court to seal the administrative record, except the commissioner's final decision.
- 19 **Effect on municipal ordinances.**
Adds § 148.6375. Effective July 1, 2028, provides sections 148.636 to 148.6377 preempt the licensure and regulation of massage therapists and Asian bodywork therapists by municipalities. Allows municipalities to require a massage therapy or Asian bodywork therapy establishment to obtain a business license or permit to conduct business, and to conduct a criminal background check on owners of a massage therapy or Asian bodywork therapy establishment who are not registered massage therapists or Asian bodywork therapists.
- 20 **Massage Therapy Advisory Council.**
Adds § 148.6376. Creates a Massage Therapy Advisory Council composed of five members appointed by the commissioner. Specifies advisory council membership, and directs the advisory council to be administered under section 15.059. Requires

Section	Description - Article 3: Massage Therapy and Asian Bodywork Therapy Registration
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the advisory council to elect a chair from among its members, and specifies duties of the advisory council. Specifies the advisory council does not expire.

21 Fees.

Adds § 148.6377. Specifies amounts the fees for initial registration and registration renewal must not exceed. Establishes fee amounts for the late fee, for annual inactive status, to reactivate a license from inactive to active status, for a temporary registration, and for a returned check. Requires an application for registration renewal that is late to be accompanied by a late fee. Provides fees are nonrefundable, and requires fees to be deposited into the state government special revenue fund.

22 Initial Massage Therapy Advisory Council.

Requires the commissioner of health to make initial appointments to the advisory council by January 1, 2027, and specifies qualification requirements for the initial appointees. Directs the commissioner to designate one member of the advisory council to call the first meeting, requires the first meeting to be convened by May 15, 2027, and requires the advisory council to elect a chair from among its members at the first meeting.

Article 4: Mortuary Science

This article modifies eligibility for mortuary science internships and modifies provisions governing issuance of reciprocal licenses to practice mortuary science.

Section	Description - Article 4: Mortuary Science
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1 Intern.

Amends § 149A.02, subd. 26. Amends the definition of intern in the mortuary science chapter to include an individual who has completed or is enrolled in an accredited mortuary science program (under current law an intern is an individual who meets the education and testing requirements for a license to practice mortuary science).

2 Internship.

Amends § 149A.20, subd. 6. In a subdivision establishing requirements for mortuary science internships, expands eligibility to participate in an internship to individuals enrolled in an accredited mortuary science program and individuals who have completed an accredited program but have not yet passed the examinations required for licensure. Modifies information an applicant for an internship must file with the commissioner of health. Specifies an internship may be completed while enrolled in a mortuary science program, after graduation, or both. Allows an intern to name an

Section Description - Article 4: Mortuary Science

alternate supervising licensee and specifies the intern may be registered under one primary supervising licensee and one alternate. If an intern has not completed courses in embalming and restorative arts, requires the intern's supervising licensee to be physically present when the intern performs surgical procedures and embalming.

3 Application procedure and documentation.

Amends § 149A.20, subd. 7. Modifies information an applicant for licensure to practice mortuary science must provide in their application, to specify it is the applicant's primary supervising licensee who must provide an affidavit with information on the applicant's internship.

4 Licensees of other states.

Amends § 149A.30, subd. 1. Modifies requirements an individual licensed to practice mortuary science in another jurisdiction must meet to obtain a reciprocal license to practice mortuary science in Minnesota. Strikes language authorizing the commissioner to issue a reciprocal license if the credentialing requirements in the other jurisdiction are similar to the licensing requirements in Minnesota. Instead, requires an individual to obtain a passing score on a national board examination or another similar examination and requires the individual to submit documentation of:

- a passing score on the national board examination or similar examination;
- meeting certain education requirements;
- being credentialed in another jurisdiction and having practiced mortuary science in that jurisdiction for at least three years;
- not being subject to any pending investigations and not practicing under a restricted credential;
- having performed at least 25 funeral services, completed at least 25 funeral arrangements, and performed at least 25 embalming cases; and
- having completed the continuing education hours required in Minnesota law within the two years before applying for licensure.

Article 5: Music Therapy Licensure

This article provides for licensure of music therapists and prohibits individuals from practicing music therapy or using protected titles unless they are licensed under this chapter.

Section Description - Article 5: Music Therapy Licensure

- 1 Criminal history background check requirements.**

Amends § 144.0572, subd. 1. Requires an applicant for initial licensure as a music therapist, relicensure after a lapse in licensure, or license renewal if licensed before January 1, 2018, to submit to a criminal history records check by the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and to a national criminal history records check.

Effective date: January 1, 2028.
- 2 Scope.**

Adds § 148H.01. Specifies sections 148H.01 to 148H.16 apply to applicants for licensure as music therapists, individuals who are licensed as music therapists, individuals who use protected titles, and individuals who represent they are licensed as music therapists.
- 3 Definitions.**

Adds § 148H.02. Defines terms for this chapter: advisory council, board-certified music therapist, commissioner, license or licensed, licensed professional music therapist or LPMT, music-based interventions, practice of music therapy, temporary licensure.
- 4 Music Therapy Advisory Council.**

Adds § 148H.03. Establishes a Music Therapy Advisory Council of six members appointed by the commissioner of health, specifies duties of the advisory council, requires the advisory council to be organized and administered under section 15.059, prohibits advisory council members from serving more than two full, consecutive terms, allows the Music Therapy Association of Minnesota and other interested persons to submit recommendations to the commissioner for appointments to the advisory council, and provides the advisory council does not expire. Requires initial appointments by August 1, 2027, and directs the commissioner to convene the first meeting by September 1, 2027.
- 5 Unauthorized practice; protected titles; exempt persons.**

Adds § 148H.04. Effective January 1, 2028, requires an individual to be licensed as a music therapist under this chapter to practice music therapy and to use certain protected titles. Allows an individual to use the term “board-certified music therapist” if the individual is licensed and holds a valid certification from the Certification Board for Music Therapists. Provides this chapter does not apply to: persons who are licensed, registered, or certified in another profession or occupation if the use of music is incidental to the practice of that profession or occupation; a person employed as a music therapist by a federal agency; the practice of music therapy as part of a program of study for students in an accredited music therapy program; a person practicing music therapy under supervision; or a person trained as

Section Description - Article 5: Music Therapy Licensure

- a music healing professional and who practices within the scope of training and certification of the music healing profession.
- 6 **Licensure qualifications.**
Adds § 148H.05. Requires an applicant for licensure as a music therapist to comply with requirements for general licensure, temporary licensure, or licensure by reciprocity.
- 7 **General licensure requirements.**
Adds § 148H.06. Requires an applicant for licensure as a music therapist to be 18 or older; have completed all academic work and fieldwork to obtain a bachelor's degree or higher in music therapy or its equivalent; and have passed the board certification examination.
- 8 **General application procedures.**
Adds § 148H.07. Lists what an applicant for general licensure as a music therapist must submit to the commissioner of health, and lists information that must be included on the licensure application form. Requires the commissioner to act on applications for licensure by approving, approving with conditions, or denying the application, and requires the commissioner to provide notice to the applicant of the action taken on the application. Allows an applicant or provisional licensee denied licensure to request reconsideration by the commissioner if the commissioner denies an application or grants a license with conditions.
- 9 **Temporary licensure.**
Adds § 148H.08. Requires the commissioner to issue a temporary license to practice music therapy to applicants who submit the required information and fees, are not subject to current or past disciplinary action, and are not disqualified. Lists information an application for temporary licensure must include. Requires an individual with a temporary license to pass the board certification examination within the temporary license period, and provides a temporary license expires 12 months after the date of issuance or the date the commissioner grants or denies licensure, whichever occurs first. Provides a temporary license is not renewable.
- 10 **Licensure by reciprocity.**
Adds § 148H.09. Requires the commissioner to issue a music therapy license to an individual if the individual is licensed in good standing in another jurisdiction with license requirements equivalent to or higher than those in Minnesota, and if the applicant submits the information required in this section.

Section Description - Article 5: Music Therapy Licensure

11 Continuing education requirements.

Adds § 148H.10. Requires licensees and applicants for licensure to complete continuing education upon obtaining initial board certification, according to a five-year cycle for completing continuing education. Specifies an applicant must include proof of completing the Continuing Music Therapy Education requirements each time they renew their music therapy license.

12 Renewal of license; license lapse.

Adds § 148H.11. Lists what an applicant for license renewal must submit to the commissioner to renew a music therapist license. Requires licenses to be renewed every two years, requires an application for license renewal to be received by the commissioner at least 30 days before the license expires, requires renewal applications submitted late to be accompanied by a late fee, and requires the commissioner to send a renewal notice to a licensee at least 60 days before the license's expiration date. Provides if a licensee fails to renew a license, the license lapses. Establishes requirements to restore a license within four years after it lapses and to obtain a license if the license lapsed more than four years ago.

13 Change of name, address, or employment.

Adds § 148H.12. Requires a licensee who changes their name, address, employment, business address, or business telephone number to inform the commissioner in writing within 30 days after the change. Specifies correspondence mailed to or served on the licensee by the commissioner to the address on file is considered received by the licensee.

14 Practice of music therapy.

Adds § 148H.13. Permits a licensed music therapist to accept referrals for music therapy services. Requires a licensed music therapist to conduct a music therapy assessment to determine if treatment is indicated, to use appropriate knowledge and skills when providing music therapy services, to develop an individualized music therapy treatment plan based on the results of a music therapy assessment, to evaluate the client's response to music therapy and to the music therapy treatment plan and make changes as appropriate, and to communicate with the client and others about the client's needs and how music therapy addresses those needs.

15 Review of client documentation; collaboration with other treating professionals.

Adds § 148H.14. Before a licensed music therapist provides music therapy services to a client, requires the therapist to review the client's diagnosis, treatment needs, and treatment plan with the team involved in the client's care. During the provision of music therapy services, requires the therapist to collaborate with the client's treatment team and, if the client has a communication disorder, with the client's audiologist or speech-language pathologist before addressing communication skills.

Section	Description - Article 5: Music Therapy Licensure
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Prohibits a music therapist from replacing services provided by an audiologist or speech-language pathologist; from evaluating or counseling on speech, language, communication, or swallowing unless authorized to practice speech-language pathology; and from representing to the public that the individual is authorized to treat communication disorders.

16 Grounds for denial of licensure and discipline; disciplinary action.

Lists grounds on which the commissioner may take licensing action or impose disciplinary action. Permits the commissioner to initiate an investigation upon receipt of a complaint that alleges the individual has violated this chapter. If the commissioner determines a ground for disciplinary action exists, permits the commissioner to refuse to grant or renew a license, approve a license with conditions, revoke or suspend a license, take a reasonable lesser action or action authorized by statute, or impose a civil penalty. If the commissioner denies an application for license renewal or takes other licensing action that makes an individual no longer entitled to practice music therapy, requires the individual to cease practicing music therapy and cease using protected titles. Permits an individual whose license was suspended to request reinstatement after the period of suspension.

17 Fees.

Adds § 148H.16. Lists maximum fee amounts for initial licensure, temporary licensure, license renewal, late fee, license verification, and a duplicate license. Provides fees collected under this chapter are nonrefundable and must be deposited in the state government special revenue fund. Establishes penalty fees for practicing musical therapy or using protected titles after a license has expired or before being issued a license.

Article 6: Social Work Practice

This article prohibits an individual hired by a county agency on or after July 1, 2027, and providing social work services from using titles that include social work or social worker, unless the individual holds a degree in social work or is licensed as a social worker.

Section	Description - Article 6: Social Work Practice
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1 City, county, and state social workers.

Amends § 148E.065, subd. 4a. Under current law, county agency social workers are not required to be licensed as social workers. A new para. (b) provides that an individual hired by a county agency on or after July 1, 2027, and providing social work

Section	Description - Article 6: Social Work Practice
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services cannot use a title that includes “social work” or “social worker” unless the individual:

- holds a baccalaureate degree or graduate degree in social work; or
- is licensed under chapter 148E as a social worker.

Provides this paragraph is not grounds to modify or remove a right or benefit accrued under a collective bargaining agreement ratified before July 1, 2026.

2 Representations.

Amends § 148E.195, subd. 2a. Requires a county employee to meet the requirements in section 145E.065, subdivision 4a, or hold a social worker license, in order to use a title that includes “social work” or “social worker.”

3 Use of titles.

Amends § 148E.280. Requires a county employee to meet the requirements in section 145E.065, subdivision 4a, or hold a social worker license, in order to use a title that includes “social work” or “social worker.”

Article 7: Dentistry Practice

This article makes changes to provisions governing the licensure and practice of dentists, dental hygienists, dental therapists, and dental assistants.

Section	Description - Article 7: Dentistry Practice
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1 Faculty dentist.

Amends § 150A.01, subd. 6a. Makes a technical change to the definition of faculty dentist in chapter 150A (dentistry), changing a reference from school of dentistry to dental education program.

2 Practice of dentistry.

Amends § 150A.05, subd. 1. Makes a technical change to a subdivision listing actions included in the practice of dentistry, changing a reference from dental schools and colleges to dental education programs.

3 Exemptions and exceptions of certain practices and operations.

Amends § 150A.05, subd. 2. Makes technical changes to a subdivision specifying practices that do not require an individual to be licensed under chapter 150A, changing references from school to education program.

Section Description - Article 7: Dentistry Practice

- 4 **Dentists.**
Amends § 150A.06, subd. 1. Makes technical changes to a subdivision listing qualifications required to apply for a license to practice dentistry, changing references from dental program and dental college to dental education program.
- 5 **Faculty dentists.**
Amends § 150A.06, subd. 1a. Makes technical changes to a subdivision listing qualifications required for faculty dentist licensure, changing references from school to education program.
- 6 **Resident dentists.**
Amends § 150A.06, subd. 1b. Makes a technical change to a subdivision listing qualifications required for licensure as a resident dentist, changing a reference from school to education program.
- 7 **Specialty dentists.**
Amends § 150A.06, subd. 1b. Removes the following from the list of requirements an applicant for licensure in a specialty area of dentistry must complete:
- be interviewed by a committee of the Board of Dentistry, if requested by the board;
 - present records of a sample of patients treated by the applicant, if requested by the board; and
 - pass a board-approved English proficiency test, at board discretion.
- Updates the name of a national commission that recognizes specialty areas of dentistry.
- 8 **Dental hygienists.**
Amends § 150A.06, subd. 2. Makes a technical change to a subdivision listing qualifications required for licensure as a dental hygienist, changing a reference from program to education program.
- 9 **Licensed dental assistant.**
Amends § 150A.06, subd. 2. Removes language prohibiting an applicant for licensure as a dental assistant from retaking the licensing examination after failing the examination twice until the applicant completes additional education and training. Also makes a technical change, changing a reference from program to education program.

Section Description - Article 7: Dentistry Practice

10 Guest license.

Amends § 150A.06, subd. 2c. Makes dental therapists eligible for guest licensure. (Under current law dentists, dental hygienists, and dental assistants are eligible for guest licensure. An individual can obtain a guest license if the individual is currently licensed and practicing in another jurisdiction, will only practice in a nonprofit public health setting, and agrees to treat indigent patients.)

11 Continuing education and professional development waiver.

Amends § 150A.06, subd. 2d. Modifies eligibility requirements for waiving continuing education requirements for retired dental professions, by changing requirements for settings in which such a dental professional must provide services. Under current law the setting must serve patients who are indigent or recipients of medical assistance or MinnesotaCare; this subdivision specifies the setting must serve patients without dental coverage and whose annual gross income is equal to or less than 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. Also removes references to the certification organizations for CPR certification.

12 Waiver of examination.

Amends § 150A.06, subd. 3. Makes a technical change to a subdivision allowing the board to waive examination requirements, changing a reference from school to education program.

13 Licensure by credentials; dental assistant.

Amends § 150A.06, subd. 8. Makes technical changes to a subdivision governing licensure by credential for dental assistants, changing references from program to education program.

14 Graduates of nonaccredited dental education programs.

Amends § 150A.06, subd. 9. Makes technical changes to a subdivision governing licensure of graduates of nonaccredited programs, changing references from program to education program.

15 Emeritus active licensure.

Amends § 150A.06, subd. 11. Specifies an emeritus active license expires 30 days after the board provides notice that the emeritus active licensee failed to renew the license. Removes specific requirements for continuing education for emeritus active licensees, and instead requires these licensees to meet the professional development requirements in rule. (Rules require dentists and dental therapists to complete 25 hours of continuing education, 15 of which must be fundamental activities, and dental hygienists and assistants to complete 13 hours, seven of which must be fundamental activities.)

Section Description - Article 7: Dentistry Practice

- 16 Licensure by credentials; dental therapist.**
Amends § 150A.06, subd. 12. Makes a technical change to a subdivision governing licensure by credential for dental therapists, changing a reference from program to education program.
- 17 Grounds.**
Amends § 150A.08, subd. 1. Makes it a ground for disciplinary action if a dentist, dental therapist, dental hygienist, or dental assistant is convicted of a felony-level criminal sexual conduct offense. Removes from the grounds for disciplinary action, habitual overindulgence in intoxicating liquors. Makes other technical changes to grounds for disciplinary action.
- 18 Access to data on licensee.**
Amends § 150A.081, subd. 1. Strikes a cross-reference to a ground for disciplinary action being deleted from section 150A.08, subdivision 1.
- 19 Application and initial license or registration fees.**
Amends § 150A.091, subd. 2. Makes a technical change to a subdivision governing licensing fees for dentists, dental therapists, dental hygienists, and dental assistants.
- 20 Annual license renewal fees.**
Amends § 150A.091, subd. 4. Adds a \$50 fee to renew a guest license for dentists, dental therapists, dental hygienists, and dental assistants.
- 21 Biennial license or registration renewal fees.**
Amends § 150A.091, subd. 5. Makes a technical change to a subdivision governing license or registration renewal fees for dentists, dental therapists, dental hygienists, and dental assistants.
- 22 Biennial license or registration late fee.**
Amends § 150A.091, subd. 7. Makes a technical change to a subdivision governing late fees for licensure or registration of dentists, dental therapists, dental hygienists, and dental assistants.
- 23 Duplicate renewal certification or registration fee.**
Amends § 150A.091, subd. 8. Eliminates a fee for a duplicate of an original dentist, dental therapist, dental hygienist, or dental assistant license, and adds a \$10 fee for a duplicate of a biennial renewal registration.

Section Description - Article 7: Dentistry Practice

- 24 **Credential review; nonaccredited dental education program.**
Amends § 150A.091, subd. 9a. Makes a technical change to a subdivision governing credential review of graduates of nonaccredited programs, changing a reference from college to education program.
- 25 **Reinstatement fee.**
Amends § 150A.091, subd. 10. Adds a \$24 fee to reinstate a dental assistant with limited radiology registration.
- 26 **Emeritus active license.**
Amends § 150A.091, subd. 20. Clarifies that emeritus active licenses must be renewed every two years.
- 27 **Emeritus active license late fee.**
Adds subd. 20a to § 150A.091. Requires the board to assess a late fee of 25 percent of the biennial renewal fee for emeritus active license applications submitted late.
- 28 **Dental hygienists.**
Amends § 150A.10, subd. 1. Makes a technical change to a subdivision governing the practice of dental hygienists, changing a reference from school to education program.
- 29 **Collaborative practice authorization for dental hygienists in community settings.**
Amends § 150A.10, subd. 1a. Allows a dentist to enter into collaborative agreements with up to eight dental hygienists, rather than up to four dental hygienists as in current law. Also makes a technical change, changing a reference from school to education program.
- 30 **Restorative procedures.**
Amends § 150A.10, subd. 4. Modifies the description of the services dental hygienists and dental assistants may provide regarding composite restorations.
- 31 **Definitions.**
Amends § 150A.105, subd. 8. In a section governing the practice of dental therapists, removes duplicative language from the definition of practice settings that serve the low-income and underserved.
- 32 **Practice limitation.**
Amends § 150A.106, subd. 3. In a subdivision governing the practice of dental therapists, strikes language making a collaborating dentist responsible for providing or arranging for another dentist or specialist if a patient needs advanced services.

Section	Description - Article 7: Dentistry Practice
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33	Unlawful practice.
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	Amends § 150A.11, subd. 1. Makes a technical change to a subdivision listing unlawful practices related to the practice of dentistry, changing a reference from school to education program.
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34	Repealer.
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	Repeals § 150A.06, subd. 6 (requiring renewal certificates to be displayed in every office where a person practices; requiring the name of each dentist practicing in a dental office to be displayed near the office entrance; requiring the board to allow guest license holders to display mini-licenses).
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Article 8: Marriage and Family Therapy Practice

This article modifies requirements for licensure by reciprocity for marriage and family therapists.

Section	Description - Article 8: Marriage and Family Therapy Practice
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1	Reciprocity with other states.
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	Amends § 148B.35. Under current law the Board of Marriage and Family Therapy is required to license a marriage and family therapist from another jurisdiction seeking to practice in Minnesota if the board determines the standards for licensure in the other jurisdiction are at least equal to the licensure standards in Minnesota. This bill deletes this requirement, and instead requires the board to issue a license to a marriage and family therapist licensed in another jurisdiction who:
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ completes an application for licensure and submits the applicable fees;▪ holds a current, valid, unrestricted marriage and family therapist license from another jurisdiction;▪ is licensed in good standing in each jurisdiction in which the applicant holds a license and is not the subject of disciplinary action or a pending investigation;▪ has not been convicted of a crime that would disqualify the individual from licensure in Minnesota; and▪ has passed a Minnesota jurisprudence examination. |
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Article 9: Pharmacy Practice

This article modifies provisions governing the practice of pharmacy and adds a ground for disciplinary action for pharmacists and pharmacist interns.

Section	Description - Article 9: Pharmacy Practice
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| 1 | <p>Practitioner.</p> <p>Amends § 151.01, subd. 23. In the definition of practitioner in the Pharmacy Practice Act, strikes references to the specific medications pharmacists are authorized to prescribe and instead adds references to the statutes authorizing pharmacists to prescribe these medications.</p> |
| 2 | <p>Practice of pharmacy.</p> <p>Amends § 151.01, subd. 27. Adds to the definition of the practice of pharmacy in the Pharmacy Practice Act, the acts of initiating, prescribing, dispensing, and administering drugs to treat opioid use disorder. Also corrects a term.</p> |
| 3 | <p>Grounds for disciplinary action.</p> <p>Amends § 151.071, subd. 2. Makes it a ground for disciplinary action by the Board of Pharmacy if a pharmacist or pharmacist intern engages in conduct that departs from or fails to conform with accepted standards for health care that would be provided in a similar setting by a reasonable, prudent pharmacist or pharmacist intern.</p> |
| 4 | <p>Treatment of opioid use disorder.</p> <p>Adds subd. 18 to § 151.37. Permits a pharmacist to prescribe, administer, and dispense legend drugs and controlled substances in Schedules III, IV, and V to treat opioid use disorder if the pharmacist determines the treatment is indicated and necessary and the pharmacist documents assessment, treatment, response, and monitoring in the patient's health record. For a pharmacist to prescribe a drug to treat opioid use disorder, requires the pharmacist to complete a training program required under federal law for the treatment of substance use disorders and obtain a DEA registration number. Requires a pharmacist to counsel a patient before dispensing a drug to treat opioid use disorder, and prohibits a pharmacist from delegating authority to prescribe a drug to treat opioid use disorder. Specifies a pharmacist is permitted to participate in drug therapy according to a protocol for opioid use disorder, to dispense or administer drugs to treat opioid use disorder under a prescription issued by another practitioner, and to charge for services under this subdivision.</p> |

Section	Description - Article 9: Pharmacy Practice
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| 5 | Prescription requirements for Schedules III or IV controlled substances.
Amends § 152.11, subd. 2. In a subdivision governing prescription requirements for Schedule III or IV controlled substances, specifies a person may dispense Schedule III or IV controlled substances according to a prescription issued by a pharmacist, for medications a pharmacist is permitted to prescribe under section 151.37. |
| 6 | Pharmacist.
Adds subd. 2a to § 152.12. Permits pharmacists to prescribe, administer, and dispense controlled substances in Schedules III, IV, and V to treat opioid use disorder, and permits pharmacist interns to administer these medications under a pharmacist's direction and supervision. |

Article 10: Physical Therapy Practice

This article modifies provisions governing the practice of physical therapists, physical therapist assistants, student physical therapists, and student physical therapist assistants.

Section	Description - Article 10: Physical Therapy Practice
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| 1 | Student physical therapist.
Amends § 148.65, subd. 5. Requires a student physical therapist to perform physical therapy under direct supervision of a physical therapist, rather than under on-site supervision as in current law. Defines direct supervision as a physical therapist being physically present and immediately available for supervision. |
| 2 | Student physical therapist assistant.
Amends § 148.65, subd. 6. Specifies supervision of a student physical therapist assistant may be performed by a physician therapist and physical therapist assistant team and modifies the definition of direct supervision to include physical therapist assistants supervising a student as part of a team. Specifies telecommunications does not meet the requirements for direct supervision. |
| 3 | Supervision.
Amends § 148.706, subd. 1. Specifies a physical therapist supervising physical therapist assistants is not required to be on site but must be easily available by telecommunication. Requires a physical therapist supervising a student physical therapist to have direct contact with the patient at least every second treatment session, and requires a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant as part of a team who is supervising a student physical therapist assistant to have direct contact |

Section	Description - Article 10: Physical Therapy Practice
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with the patient during at least every second treatment session with the patient.
Reorganizes existing text.

4 Direction of duties.

Amends § 148.706, subd. 2. Authorizes a physical therapist to direct patient treatment procedures to physical therapist assistants, rather than delegating patient treatment procedures as in current law. Prohibits a physical therapist from directing the following to a physical therapist assistant or other personnel: the initial patient examination and development and modification of the plan of care.

5 Observation of and collaboration with physical therapist assistants.

Amends § 148.706, subd. 3. Provides that when a physical therapist directs components of a patient's treatment to a physical therapist assistant, a physical therapist must, at least every six treatment sessions at which the physical therapist assistant provides services, (1) observe a portion of the patient treatment session with the physical therapist assistant and (2) document a collaborative discussion with the physical therapist assistant and the continued appropriateness of the plan of care.

Article 11: Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Practice

This article modifies requirements for collaborative practice agreements within which nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists must practice for a specified period after licensure.

Section	Description - Article 11: Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Practice
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1 Postgraduate practice.

Amends § 148.211, subd. 1c. Modifies requirements for a collaborative agreement within which a nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist must practice for at least 2,080 hours when qualified for licensure as an advanced practice registered nurse, to:

- remove the requirement that the collaborative practice occurs in a setting with both advanced practice registered nurses and physicians; and
- require an advanced practice registered nurse working in the context of a collaborative agreement with a nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist to have practiced for at least three years as an advanced practice registered nurse.

Section	Description - Article 11: Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Practice
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2	Postgraduate practice in certain specialties.
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Adds subd. 1d to § 148.211. Specifies a nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist who provides services other than primary care services or mental health services must complete their collaborative agreement in a setting with both advanced practice registered nurses and physicians.

Article 12: Health-related Professions; Practicing without a License

This article makes it unlawful for any person who is not a natural person to practice medicine, optometry, or psychology without a license.

Section	Description - Article 12: Health-related Professions; Practicing without a License
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1	Unlawful practice of medicine.
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Amends § 147.081, subd. 1. Provides it is unlawful for any person who is not a natural person to practice medicine.

2	Gross misdemeanor.
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Amends § 148.61, subd. 5. Provides it is unlawful for any person who is not a natural person to practice optometry in Minnesota.

3	Violation.
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Amends § 148.941, subd. 6. Provides it is unlawful for any person who is not a natural person to practice psychology or misrepresent themselves as psychologists or psychological practitioners.

Article 13: Appropriations

This article appropriates money to the commissioner of health for massage therapy and Asian bodywork therapy registration and for music therapist licensure.

Section	Description - Article 13: Appropriations
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1	Appropriation; massage therapist and Asian bodywork therapist registration.
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Appropriates \$147,000 in fiscal year 2027 from the state government special revenue fund to the commissioner of health for registration of massage therapists and Asian bodywork therapists. Specifies the base for appropriations for this purpose in fiscal years 2028 and 2029.

Section **Description - Article 13: Appropriations**

2 Appropriation; music therapist licensure.

Appropriates \$87,000 in fiscal year 2027 from the state government special revenue fund to the commissioner of health for licensure of music therapists. Specifies the base for appropriations for this purpose in fiscal years 2028 and 2029.



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