



Board of Physicians

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Damean W.E. Freas, D.O., Chair

2021 SESSION POSITION PAPER

BILL NO.: HB 219
COMMITTEE: House Health and Government Operations
POSITION: Information

TITLE: Naturopathic Doctors – Formulary Council Membership, Formulary Content, and Scope of Practice

BILL ANALYSIS: HB 219 adds one member to the Naturopathic Doctors Formulary Council (NDFC) within the Maryland Board of Physicians (the Board). The bill also provides for expansion of the content of the formulary and changes the scope of practice of naturopathic doctors licensed by the Board.

POSITION & RATIONALE: The NDFC currently has seven members. One is the Deputy Secretary of Public Health Services, or the Deputy Secretary's designee. The other six members are appointed by the Board.

The addition of a new member will create an eight-member NDFC. An even number of members creates the potential for a tie vote if the NDFC is split on a certain matter and all eight members vote. The Board relies on the expertise of the NDFC and seeks clear recommendations from the NDFC. Therefore, the Board suggests that the number of members should remain as seven or should increase to nine.

The Board has no position on the formulary and scope of practice matters included in this bill; however, the Board wishes to provide information regarding the addition of a member to the NDFC.

For more information, please contact Wynnee Hawk, Manager, Policy and Legislation, Maryland Board of Physicians, 410-764-3786.

The opinion of the Board expressed in this document does not necessarily reflect that of the Maryland Department of Health or the Administration.