

5940--C

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N   A S S E M B L Y

March 8, 2013

---

Introduced by M. of A. BRONSON -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. KIM --  
read once and referred to the Committee on Labor -- committee  
discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted  
to said committee -- reported and referred to the Committee on Codes  
-- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended  
and recommitted to said committee -- reported and referred to the  
Committee on Ways and Means -- committee discharged, bill amended,  
ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the workers' compensation law and the education law, in  
relation to the care and treatment of injured employees by licensed or  
certified acupuncturists

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEM-  
BLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     Section 1. The workers' compensation law is amended by adding a new  
2     section 13-p to read as follows:  
3     S 13-P. CARE AND TREATMENT OF INJURED EMPLOYEES BY LICENSED OR CERTI-  
4     FIED ACUPUNCTURISTS. 1. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION: (A) THE TERM  
5     "ACUPUNCTURIST" SHALL MEAN A PERSON WHO IS DULY LICENSED AND REGISTERED  
6     AS A LICENSED ACUPUNCTURIST PURSUANT TO ARTICLE ONE HUNDRED SIXTY OF THE  
7     EDUCATION LAW, OR WHO IS A CERTIFIED ACUPUNCTURIST PURSUANT TO SUBDIVI-  
8     SION THREE OF SECTION EIGHTY-TWO HUNDRED SIXTEEN OF THE EDUCATION LAW;  
9     AND  
10    (B) THE TERM "CHAIR" SHALL MEAN THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE STATE BOARD OF  
11    ACUPUNCTURE PURSUANT TO ARTICLE ONE HUNDRED SIXTY OF THE EDUCATION LAW.  
12    2. (A) AN INJURED EMPLOYEE, INJURED UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH MAKE  
13    SUCH AN INJURY COMPENSABLE UNDER THIS ARTICLE, MAY LAWFULLY BE TREATED  
14    BY AN ACUPUNCTURIST AUTHORIZED BY THE CHAIR TO RENDER ACUPUNCTURE CARE  
15    PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION. SUCH SERVICES SHALL BE WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE  
16    PROFESSION OF ACUPUNCTURE AS DEFINED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION  
17    EIGHTY-TWO HUNDRED ELEVEN OF THE EDUCATION LAW.

EXPLANATION--Matter in *ITALICS* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

LBD07830-06-3

(B) MEDICAL BUREAUS, MEDICAL CENTERS JOINTLY OPERATED BY LABOR AND MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIVES, HOSPITALS AND HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS, AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE MEDICAL CARE PURSUANT TO SECTION THIRTEEN-C OF THIS ARTICLE, MAY PROVIDE ACUPUNCTURE SERVICES WHEN REQUIRED, PROVIDED SUCH CARE IS RENDERED BY AN ACUPUNCTURIST AS REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION.

(C) AN ACUPUNCTURIST RENDERING SERVICE PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL MAINTAIN RECORDS OF THE PATIENT'S CONDITION AND ACUPUNCTURE TREATMENT, AND SUCH RECORDS OR REPORTS SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE CHAIR ON SUCH FORMS AND AT SUCH TIMES AS THE CHAIR MAY REQUIRE.

3. (A) AN ACUPUNCTURIST WHO IS DESIROUS OF BEING AUTHORIZED TO RENDER ACUPUNCTURE SERVICES UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL FILE AN APPLICATION FOR AUTHORIZATION UNDER THIS SECTION WITH THE ACUPUNCTURE PRACTICE COMMITTEE. THE APPLICANT SHALL AGREE TO REFRAIN FROM SUBSEQUENTLY TREATING FOR REMUNERATION, AS A PRIVATE PATIENT, ANY PERSON SEEKING ACUPUNCTURE SERVICES, IN CONNECTION WITH, OR AS A RESULT OF, ANY INJURY COMPENSABLE UNDER THIS CHAPTER, IF HE OR SHE HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM THE LIST OF ACUPUNCTURISTS AUTHORIZED TO RENDER SERVICES UNDER THIS CHAPTER. THIS AGREEMENT SHALL RUN TO THE BENEFIT OF THE INJURED PERSON SO TREATED, AND SHALL BE AVAILABLE AS A DEFENSE IN ANY ACTION BY SUCH ACUPUNCTURIST FOR PAYMENT FOR TREATMENT RENDERED BY SUCH ACUPUNCTURIST AFTER BEING REMOVED FROM THE LIST OF ACUPUNCTURISTS AUTHORIZED TO RENDER ACUPUNCTURE SERVICES UNDER THIS SECTION. THE ACUPUNCTURE PRACTICE COMMITTEE IF IT DEEMS SUCH ACUPUNCTURIST DULY QUALIFIED SHALL RECOMMEND TO THE CHAIR THAT SUCH PERSON BE AUTHORIZED TO RENDER ACUPUNCTURE SERVICES UNDER THIS SECTION. SUCH RECOMMENDATIONS SHALL BE ONLY ADVISORY TO THE CHAIR AND SHALL NOT BE BINDING OR CONCLUSIVE.

(B) THE CHAIR SHALL PREPARE AND ESTABLISH A SCHEDULE FOR THE STATE OR SCHEDULES LIMITED TO DEFINED LOCALITIES OF CHARGES AND FEES FOR ACUPUNCTURE TREATMENT AND CARE, TO BE DETERMINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH AND BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE PURSUANT TO RULES PROMULGATED BY THE CHAIR. BEFORE PREPARING SUCH SCHEDULE FOR THE STATE OR SCHEDULES FOR LIMITED LOCALITIES THE CHAIR SHALL REQUEST THE ACUPUNCTURE PRACTICE COMMITTEE TO SUBMIT TO SUCH CHAIR A REPORT ON THE AMOUNT OF REMUNERATION DEEMED BY SUCH COMMITTEE TO BE FAIR AND ADEQUATE FOR THE TYPES OF ACUPUNCTURE SERVICES TO BE RENDERED UNDER THIS CHAPTER, BUT CONSIDERATION SHALL BE GIVEN TO THE VIEW OF OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES. THE AMOUNTS PAYABLE BY THE EMPLOYER FOR SUCH TREATMENT AND SERVICES SHALL BE THE FEES AND CHARGES ESTABLISHED BY SUCH SCHEDULE.

(C) IN DETERMINING THE SCHEDULE OR SCHEDULES AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (B) OF THIS SUBDIVISION, THE CHAIR SHALL MAKE A DISTINCTION BETWEEN TREATMENT RENDERED BY A DULY LICENSED AND REGISTERED ACUPUNCTURIST SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE ONE HUNDRED SIXTY OF THE EDUCATION LAW AND A CERTIFIED ACUPUNCTURIST SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION EIGHTY-TWO HUNDRED SIXTEEN OF THE EDUCATION LAW, AND THE CHAIR SHALL PREPARE AND ESTABLISH A SCHEDULE OR SCHEDULES REFLECTING FEES AND CHARGES APPROPRIATE TO THE NATURE AND SCOPE OF THE TREATMENT RENDERED BY EACH TYPE OF PRACTITIONER, GIVING DUE CONSIDERATION TO ALL RELEVANT FACTORS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE LEVEL OF EDUCATION OF THE PRACTITIONER, THE TYPE OF TREATMENT RENDERED, WHETHER THE ACUPUNCTURE TREATMENT IS BEING PROVIDED AS THE PRINCIPAL TREATMENT OR AS AN ADJUNCT TREATMENT, AND THE BILLING PRACTICES ENTAILED, INCLUDING WHETHER THE PRACTITIONER SUBMITS ONE COMPREHENSIVE BILL OR BILLS SEPARATELY FOR THE ACUPUNCTURE TREATMENT, OFFICE VISITS AND OTHER ITEMS.

4. NO CLAIM FOR ACUPUNCTURE SERVICES SHALL BE VALID AND ENFORCEABLE AS AGAINST THE EMPLOYER OR EMPLOYEES UNLESS WITHIN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS

1 FOLLOWING THE FIRST TREATMENT THE ACUPUNCTURIST GIVING SUCH CARE OR  
2 TREATMENT FURNISHES TO THE EMPLOYER AND DIRECTLY TO THE CHAIR A PRELIMI-  
3 NARY NOTICE OF SUCH INJURY AND TREATMENT, AND WITHIN FIFTEEN DAYS THERE-  
4 AFTER A MORE COMPLETE REPORT AND SUBSEQUENT THERETO PROGRESS REPORTS AS  
5 REQUESTED IN WRITING BY THE CHAIR, BOARD, EMPLOYER OR INSURANCE CARRIER,  
6 AT INTERVALS OF NOT LESS THAN THREE WEEKS APART OR AT LESS FREQUENT  
7 INTERVALS IF REQUESTED ON FORMS PRESCRIBED BY THE CHAIR. THE BOARD MAY  
8 EXCUSE THE FAILURE TO GIVE SUCH NOTICES WITHIN THE DESIGNATED PERIODS  
9 WHEN IT FINDS IT TO BE IN THE INTEREST OF JUSTICE TO DO SO.

10 5. FEES FOR ACUPUNCTURE SERVICES SHALL BE PAYABLE ONLY TO A DULY  
11 LICENSED OR CERTIFIED ACUPUNCTURIST PURSUANT TO ARTICLE ONE HUNDRED  
12 SIXTY OF THE EDUCATION LAW, OR TO THE AGENT, EXECUTOR OR ADMINISTRATOR  
13 OF THE ESTATE OF SUCH ACUPUNCTURIST. NO ACUPUNCTURIST RENDERING TREAT-  
14 MENT TO A COMPENSATION CLAIMANT SHALL COLLECT OR RECEIVE A FEE FROM SUCH  
15 CLAIMANT WITHIN THIS STATE, BUT SHALL HAVE RECOURSE FOR PAYMENT OF  
16 SERVICES RENDERED ONLY TO THE EMPLOYER UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS  
17 SECTION.

18 6. WHENEVER HIS OR HER ATTENDANCE AT A HEARING IS REQUIRED, THE  
19 ACUPUNCTURIST OF THE INJURED EMPLOYEE SHALL BE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE A FEE  
20 FROM THE EMPLOYER IN AN AMOUNT TO BE FIXED BY THE BOARD, IN ADDITION TO  
21 ANY FEE PAYABLE UNDER SECTION EIGHT THOUSAND ONE OF THE CIVIL PRACTICE  
22 LAW AND RULES.

23 7. (A) UNLESS WITHIN THIRTY DAYS AFTER A BILL HAS BEEN RENDERED TO THE  
24 EMPLOYER BY THE ACUPUNCTURIST WHO HAS TREATED AN INJURED EMPLOYEE, SUCH  
25 EMPLOYER SHALL HAVE NOTIFIED THE CHAIR AND SUCH ACUPUNCTURIST IN WRITING  
26 THAT SUCH EMPLOYER DEMANDS AN IMPARTIAL EXAMINATION OF THE FAIRNESS OF  
27 THE AMOUNT CLAIMED BY SUCH ACUPUNCTURIST FOR HIS OR HER SERVICES, THE  
28 RIGHT TO SUCH AN IMPARTIAL EXAMINATION SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE WAIVED AND  
29 THE AMOUNT CLAIMED BY SUCH ACUPUNCTURIST SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE THE FAIR  
30 VALUE OF THE SERVICES RENDERED. IF THE PARTIES FAIL TO AGREE AS TO THE  
31 ACUPUNCTURE CARE RENDERED UNDER THIS CHAPTER TO A CLAIMANT, SUCH VALUE  
32 SHALL BE DECIDED BY THE ACUPUNCTURE PRACTICE COMMITTEE AND THE MAJORITY  
33 DECISION OF SUCH COMMITTEE SHALL BE CONCLUSIVE UPON THE PARTIES AS TO  
34 THE VALUE OF THE SERVICES RENDERED. THE BOARD MAY MAKE AN AWARD FOR ANY  
35 SUCH BILL OR PART THEREOF WHICH REMAINS UNPAID IN THE SAME MANNER AS AN  
36 AWARD FOR BILLS RENDERED UNDER SUBDIVISIONS ONE AND THREE OF SECTION  
37 THIRTEEN-G OF THIS ARTICLE, AND SUCH AWARD MAY BE COLLECTED IN LIKE  
38 MANNER AS AN AWARD OF COMPENSATION. THE CHAIR SHALL ASSESS THE SUM OF  
39 FIFTY DOLLARS AGAINST THE EMPLOYER FOR EACH SUCH AWARD MADE BY THE  
40 BOARD, WHICH SUM SHALL BE PAID INTO THE STATE TREASURY.

41 (B) WHERE AN ACUPUNCTURIST'S BILL HAS BEEN DETERMINED TO BE DUE AND  
42 OWING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION, THE BOARD MAY  
43 IMPOSE A PENALTY OF NOT MORE THAN ONE AND ONE-HALF PERCENT INTEREST PER  
44 MONTH PAYABLE TO THE ACUPUNCTURIST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES AND  
45 REGULATIONS PROMULGATED BY THE BOARD.

46 (C) THE PARTIES TO SUCH PROCEEDING SHALL EACH PAY TO THE CHAIR A SUM  
47 EQUAL TO FIVE PER CENTUM OF THE AMOUNT PAYABLE UNDER THE DECISION OF  
48 SUCH COMMITTEE OR A MINIMUM OF FIVE DOLLARS, WHICHEVER IS GREATER. THE  
49 SUMS SO COLLECTED SHALL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE STATE TREASURY TO REIM-  
50 BURSE IT ON ACCOUNT OF THE EXPENSE OF ADMINISTERING THIS SECTION.

51 8. WITHIN THE LIMITS PRESCRIBED BY THE EDUCATION LAW FOR ACUPUNCTURE  
52 SERVICES, THE REPORT OR TESTIMONY OF AN AUTHORIZED ACUPUNCTURIST  
53 CONCERNING THE CONDITION OF AN INJURED EMPLOYEE AND TREATMENT THEREOF  
54 SHALL BE DEEMED COMPETENT EVIDENCE AND THE PROFESSIONAL OPINION OF THE  
55 ACUPUNCTURIST AS TO CAUSAL RELATION AND AS TO REQUIRED TREATMENT SHALL  
56 BE DEEMED COMPETENT BUT SHALL NOT BE CONTROLLING. NOTHING IN THIS

SECTION SHALL BE DEEMED TO DEPRIVE ANY EMPLOYER OR INSURANCE CARRIER OF ANY RIGHT TO A MEDICAL EXAMINATION OR PRESENTATION OF MEDICAL TESTIMONY NOW CONFERRED BY LAW.

9. THE CHAIR SHALL PROMULGATE RULES GOVERNING THE PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED BY THOSE RENDERING ACUPUNCTURE SERVICES UNDER THIS SECTION, WHICH RULES SO FAR AS PRACTICABLE SHALL CONFORM TO THE RULES PRESENTLY IN EFFECT WITH REFERENCE TO MEDICAL CARE FURNISHED TO CLAIMANTS IN WORKERS' COMPENSATION. IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROMULGATION OF SUCH RULES THE CHAIR MAY CONSULT THE ACUPUNCTURE PRACTICE COMMITTEE AND MAY TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE VIEW OF OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES.

10. THE CHAIR SHALL APPOINT FOR AND WITH JURISDICTION IN THE ENTIRE STATE OF NEW YORK A SINGLE ACUPUNCTURE PRACTICE COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF TWO LICENSED ACUPUNCTURISTS, AND ONE DULY LICENSED PHYSICIAN OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK. EACH MEMBER OF SUCH COMMITTEE SHALL RECEIVE COMPENSATION EITHER ON AN ANNUAL BASIS OR ON A PER DIEM BASIS TO BE FIXED BY THE CHAIR WITHIN AMOUNTS APPROPRIATED THEREFOR. ONE OF SUCH LICENSED ACUPUNCTURISTS SHALL BE DESIGNATED BY THE CHAIR AS A CHAIR OF SUCH ACUPUNCTURE PRACTICE COMMITTEE. NO MEMBER OF SUCH COMMITTEE SHALL RENDER ACUPUNCTURE SERVICES UNDER THIS SECTION NOR BE AN EMPLOYER OR ACCEPT OR PARTICIPATE IN ANY FEE FROM ANY INSURANCE COMPANY AUTHORIZED TO WRITE WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE IN THIS STATE OR FROM ANY SELF-INSURER, WHETHER SUCH EMPLOYMENT OR FEE RELATES TO A WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIM OR OTHERWISE. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, UPON REQUEST, SHALL ADVISE AND ASSIST SUCH COMMITTEE.

11. THE ACUPUNCTURE PRACTICE COMMITTEE SHALL INVESTIGATE, HEAR AND MAKE FINDINGS WITH RESPECT TO ALL CHARGES AS TO PROFESSIONAL OR OTHER MISCONDUCT OF ANY AUTHORIZED ACUPUNCTURISTS AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION UNDER RULES AND PROCEDURES TO BE PRESCRIBED BY THE CHAIR AND SHALL REPORT EVIDENCE OF SUCH MISCONDUCT, WITH THEIR FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS WITH RESPECT THERETO, TO THE CHAIR. THE FINDINGS, DECISION AND RECOMMENDATION OF SUCH ACUPUNCTURE PRACTICE COMMITTEE SHALL BE ADVISORY TO THE CHAIR ONLY, AND SHALL NOT BE BINDING OR CONCLUSIVE UPON HIM OR HER. THE CHAIR SHALL REMOVE FROM THE LIST OF ACUPUNCTURISTS AUTHORIZED TO RENDER ACUPUNCTURE SERVICES UNDER THIS CHAPTER THE NAME OF ANY ACUPUNCTURIST WHO HE OR SHE SHALL FIND AFTER REASONABLE INVESTIGATION IS DISQUALIFIED BECAUSE SUCH ACUPUNCTURIST:

(A) HAS BEEN GUILTY OF PROFESSIONAL OR OTHER MISCONDUCT OR INCOMPETENCY IN CONNECTION WITH THE RENDERING OF ACUPUNCTURE SERVICES,

(B) HAS EXCEEDED THE LIMITS OF HIS OR HER PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE IN RENDERING ACUPUNCTURE SERVICES UNDER THE LAW, OR HAS MADE FALSE STATEMENTS REGARDING QUALIFICATIONS IN THE APPLICATION FOR AUTHORIZATION,

(C) HAS FAILED TO SUBMIT TIMELY, FULL AND TRUTHFUL ACUPUNCTURE EVALUATION AND TREATMENT REPORTS OF ALL FINDINGS TO THE EMPLOYER AND DIRECTLY TO THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD WITHIN THE TIME LIMITS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION,

(D) HAS RENDERED ACUPUNCTURE SERVICES UNDER THIS CHAPTER FOR A FEE LESS THAN THAT FIXED IN THE FEE SCHEDULE,

(E) HAS SOLICITED OR HAS EMPLOYED ANOTHER TO SOLICIT FOR HIMSELF OR HERSELF OR FOR ANOTHER PROFESSIONAL TREATMENT, EXAMINATION OR CARE OF AN INJURED EMPLOYEE WITH ANY CLAIM UNDER THIS CHAPTER,

(F) HAS REFUSED TO APPEAR BEFORE OR ANSWER UPON REQUEST OF THE CHAIR, BOARD, ACUPUNCTURE PRACTICE COMMITTEE OR ANY DULY AUTHORIZED OFFICER OF THE STATE, ANY LEGAL QUESTION OR PRODUCE ANY RELEVANT BOOK OR PAPER CONCERNING CONDUCT UNDER AN AUTHORIZATION GRANTED UNDER LAW, OR

(G) HAS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY REQUESTED, RECEIVED OR PARTICIPATED IN THE DIVISION, TRANSFERENCE, ASSIGNMENT, REBATING, SPLITTING OR REFUNDING

1 OF A FEE FOR, OR HAS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY REQUESTED, RECEIVED OR PROF-  
2 ITED BY MEANS OF A CREDIT OR OTHERWISE VALUABLE CONSIDERATION AS A  
3 COMMISSION, DISCOUNT OR GRATUITY IN CONNECTION WITH THE TREATMENT OF A  
4 WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMANT.

5 12. ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES OR ATTEMPTS TO VIOLATE, AND ANY PERSON WHO  
6 AIDS ANOTHER TO VIOLATE OR ATTEMPTS TO INDUCE HIM OR HER TO VIOLATE THE  
7 PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPH (G) OF SUBDIVISION ELEVEN OF THIS SECTION SHALL  
8 BE GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR.

9 13. NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONSTRUED AS LIMITING IN ANY  
10 RESPECT THE POWER OR DUTY OF THE CHAIR TO INVESTIGATE INSTANCES OF  
11 MISCONDUCT, EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER INVESTIGATION BY THE ACUPUNCTURE  
12 PRACTICE COMMITTEE, OR TO TEMPORARILY SUSPEND THE AUTHORIZATION OF ANY  
13 ACUPUNCTURIST BELIEVED TO BE GUILTY OF SUCH MISCONDUCT. THE PROVISIONS  
14 OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION THIRTEEN-D OF THIS ARTICLE WHICH ARE NOT  
15 INCONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE APPLICABLE AS  
16 IF FULLY SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION.

17 14. NOTHING CONTAINED IN THIS SECTION SHALL PROHIBIT ACUPUNCTURISTS  
18 WHO PRACTICE AS PARTNERS, IN GROUPS OR AS A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION  
19 FROM POOLING FEES AND MONEYS RECEIVED, EITHER BY THE PARTNERSHIP,  
20 PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION OR GROUP OR BY THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS THEREOF,  
21 FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FURNISHED BY ANY INDIVIDUAL PROFESSIONAL  
22 MEMBER, OR EMPLOYEE OF SUCH PARTNERSHIP, CORPORATION OR GROUP, NOR SHALL  
23 THE PROFESSIONALS CONSTITUTING THE PARTNERSHIPS, CORPORATIONS, OR GROUPS  
24 BE PROHIBITED FROM SHARING, DIVIDING OR APPORTIONING THE FEES AND MONEYS  
25 RECEIVED BY THEM OR BY THE PARTNERSHIP, CORPORATION OR GROUP IN ACCORD-  
26 ANCE WITH A PARTNERSHIP OR OTHER AGREEMENT.

27 S 2. Subdivision 1 of section 8213 of the education law, as added by  
28 chapter 772 of the laws of 1990, is amended to read as follows:

29 (1) There is hereby established within the department a state board  
30 for acupuncture. The board shall consist of not less than eleven members  
31 to be appointed by the board of regents on the recommendation of the  
32 commissioner for the purpose of assisting the board of regents and the  
33 department on matters of professional licensing and professional conduct  
34 in accordance with section sixty-five hundred eight of this [chapter]  
35 TITLE, four of whom shall be licensed acupuncturists, four of whom shall  
36 be licensed physicians certified to use acupuncture and three of whom  
37 shall be public members representing the consumer and community. Of the  
38 acupuncturists first appointed to the board, one may be a registered  
39 specialist's assistant-acupuncture provided that the term of such regis-  
40 tered specialist's assistant-acupuncture shall not be more than four  
41 years. Of the members first appointed, three shall be appointed for a  
42 one year term, three shall be appointed for a two year term and three  
43 shall be appointed for a three year term, and two shall be appointed for  
44 a four year term. Thereafter all members shall serve for five year  
45 terms. In the event that more than eleven members are appointed, a  
46 majority of the additional members shall be licensed acupuncturists. The  
47 members of the board shall select one of themselves as [chairman] CHAIR-  
48 PERSON to serve for a one year term.

49 S 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after  
50 it shall have become a law. Provided, that effective immediately, the  
51 addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rules and regulations necessary  
52 to implement the provisions of this act on its effective date are  
53 authorized and directed to be completed on or before such effective  
54 date.