

March 29, 1999

H 678. ACUPUNCTURIST REIMBURSEMENT. TO PROVIDE FOR EQUAL TREATMENT FOR ACUPUNCTURISTS WITH RESPECT TO INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT. Amends GS 58-50-30 to include acupuncturists licensed under Art. 30 of GS Ch. 90 among those health care providers subject to that section, which generally prohibits discrimination in health insurance policy against the providers covered in the bill. Amends GS 58-65-1 (which authorizes medical service plans) to require that the plan include services by licensed acupuncturists. Adds new GS 90-460 prohibiting any state or local government agency administering relief, social security, health insurance or health services programs to deny access to acupuncturists if service is within scope of practice of acupuncture. Repeals GS 90-459 which specifies that acupuncture article in that chapter does not require that third party reimburse for acupuncture services. Amends GS 135-40.6(8) to include acupuncture services in state health plan. Effective Jan. 1, 2000; insurance provisions applicable to plans issued or renewed on or after that date and state health plan provision applicable for treatment and services provided on or after that date.

Intro. by Sherill and Luebke.

Ref. to Insurance

GS 58,90

April 26, 1999

H 678. ACUPUNCTURIST REIMBURSEMENT. Intro. 3/29/99. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Original bill added new GS 135-40.6(8)u., adding charges for the practice of acupuncture to the list of covered charges allowable under the state employees' comprehensive medical plan. This committee substitute limits the allowable charge under the added section to charges "for the treatment of pain and the production of regional anesthesia" through acupuncture.

April 28, 1999

H 678. ACUPUNCTURIST REIMBURSEMENT. Intro. 3/29/1999. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 2nd edition. Amends GS 90-457 to raise fee that Acupuncture Licensing Board may charge for late renewal of acupuncturist's license to \$100 (now, \$75).

May 13, 1999

H 678. ACUPUNCTURIST REIMBURSEMENT. Intro. 3/29/99. House amendment makes the following changes to 3rd edition. Adds GS 90-459.1 to allow direct insurance reimbursement to an acupuncturist only if the patient has consulted with a physician and has been examined by a physician for the related medical condition. Adds 90-459.2 to provide that third party reimbursement is not required for a patient under the age of eighteen except upon referral of that patient by a physician.