

HOUSE BILL NO. 445

INTRODUCED BY J. TAYLOR

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT RELATING TO ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE PRACTICES; DEFINING "ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE"; AND RELEASING A MEDICAL PRACTITIONER FROM DISCIPLINARY ACTION BECAUSE OF PRACTICING ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Alternative medicine.** (1) For purposes of [section 2] and this section, "alternative medicine" means those health care methods of diagnosis, treatment, or healing that are not generally used but that provide a reasonable potential for therapeutic gain in a patient's medical condition and for which the risk of the methods does not outweigh the potential benefits.

(2) A medical practitioner, as defined in 37-2-101, who practices alternative medicine shall inform each patient in writing during the initial patient contact of the medical practitioner's education, experience, and credentials related to the methods of alternative medicine.

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Medical practitioner not subject to disciplinary action.** (1) A medical practitioner is not subject to disciplinary action, may not be found guilty of unprofessional conduct, and may not be found unfit to practice medicine solely on the basis that the medical practitioner uses alternative medicine methods.

NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Codification instruction.** [Sections 1 and 2] are intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 37, chapter 2, part 3, and the provisions of Title 37, chapter 2, part 3, apply to [sections 1 and 2].

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