

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

May 2, 2006

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIONS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1155

Honorable Members
Twenty-Third Legislature
State of Hawaii

Pursuant to Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, I am returning herewith, without my approval, House Bill No. 1155, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to Naturopathy."

The purpose of this bill is to require the Board of Examiners in Naturopathy to adopt a formulary and qualifications for administering natural medicines by injection and to grant to qualified naturopaths the authority to administer natural medicines by injection.

This bill is objectionable because it does not provide adequate protection for the health and safety of the public. While the practice of naturopathic medicine has a long history and the administration of "natural medicines" by injection is part of that history, this bill does not sufficiently define "natural medicine." Although naturopaths would not have access to substances controlled under chapter 329 (Uniform Controlled Substances Act), Hawaii Revised Statutes, or prescription drugs under the purview of chapter 328 (Food, Drugs, and Cosmetics), Hawaii Revised Statutes, there are many substances on the market that are not controlled by law or regulated by the United States Food and Drug Administration and that are touted as "natural." The injection of some of these substances may cause serious harm or death to recipients of such injections.

Additionally, this bill provides that a temporary advisory committee on the administration of natural medicines by injection be formed to recommend to the Board of Examiners in

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Naturopathy a formulary of natural medicines that naturopaths may administer by injection and the qualifications necessary for administering natural medicines by injection. This committee would be composed of two persons licensed as naturopathic physicians under chapter 455 (Naturopathy), Hawaii Revised Statutes, and appointed by the Board of Examiners in Naturopathy; one person licensed in medicine under chapter 453 (Medicine and Surgery), Hawaii Revised Statutes, and appointed by the Board of Medical Examiners; and one person licensed as a pharmacist under chapter 461 (Pharmacists and Pharmacy), Hawaii Revised Statutes, and appointed by the Board of Pharmacy. The temporary committee's recommendations would be acted upon by the Board of Examiners in Naturopathy, composed of three naturopathic physicians and two public members. Thus, the determination of what constitutes a "natural medicine," as well as the qualifications necessary to inject those substances into patients, would be primarily the decision of naturopaths themselves.

It would be preferable that any formulary of injectable "natural medicines" and the qualifications to administer by injection be overseen by medical doctors, as is the case with nurses.

For the foregoing reasons, I am returning House Bill No. 1155 without my approval.

Respectfully,



LINDA LINGLE
Governor of Hawaii