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NEVADA BOARD OF HOMEOPATHIC MEDICAL EXAMINERS

Homeopathy was officially recognized under the 1938 Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act; the 1965 Medicare Act; and the 1987 FDA Compliance Policy Guidelines. It was considered to have great benefits when compared to conventional medicine because of generally lower medical treatment and medication costs.

Formed in 1983, the Nevada Board of Homeopathic Medical Examiners (BHME), as defined by NRS 630A, protects the public health, safety and welfare through a self-supporting program of examination, licensing and regulation of physicians practicing homeopathic and integrative alternative medicine. A supporting argument for the creation of a separate board for homeopathic practices addressed the need to recognize homeopathy as a legitimate medical profession.

Increasing numbers of patients are seeking an alternative to conventional medicine. Former Governor Kenny Guinn and Lieutenant Governor Lorraine Hunt labeled Nevada the "Health Freedom State," and Nevada became the "place to go" for patients seeking alternative, integrative and complementary care as their health care of choice. Today, BHME licensees care for many thousands of patients from Nevada, the United States and around the world.

At the March 21, 2018, Sunset Committee meeting, then Homeopathic Board President Diane Kennedy stated 70 percent of homeopathic patients come from out-of-state to receive treatments at various clinics. She indicated this patient traffic adds tourism revenues. Nine doctors provided the following financial information:

Total Income:	\$14,071,628.00
Nevada Income	\$ 3,254,180.00
Out of State Income	\$ 9,735,493.00

Thank you for your Business

Agenda Item V-A (SUNSET) Meeting Date: 06-13-18
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Due to the high volume of out-of-state patients (based upon estimated cost/night @\$150) and food expenditures), an estimate of the additional revenue to the state totals \$14,382,414.

There are 25 licensed homeopathic physicians, 27 advanced practitioners of homeopathy and 10 homeopathic assistants. As for expanding the number of licensees in Nevada, currently there are seven licensee candidates:

Luzminda Barzaga, MT	applying for HA
Jacqueline Cooper, MA	applying for HA
Hazel Gois, ND	applying for APH
Mark Hahn, MD	applying for HMD
Mary Peterson, DC	applying for APH
Crosbie Running, RN	applying for APH
Theresa Werde, RN	applying for APH

The Board did not keep a log of formal complaints when inquiries were made, as they were not considered complaints but public calls inquiring about “doctors” and if they are licensed with this Board. The Executive Director would advise the caller to check if the person was licensed or recommend that they inquire with other licensing boards.

The current Board recognizes there are internal issues which need to be immediately addressed. Committees have been established and are hard at work to correct these issues. In addition, the committees will review statutes for recommended legislative changes which will assist the Board, while ensuring continued regulation and protection of the public. A new board will be elected when all concerns have been addressed and corrected.

In response to the Chairwoman’s inquiries regarding the growth of homeopathic medicine, I would like to point out that in Nevada under NRS 630A that ALL ALTERNATIVE, Complementary and Integrative medicine falls under the purview of this Board. Information is available on the internet which indicates current trends in alternative medicine support the statement, “that the entire field is growing”. The Nevada Homeopathic Physician’s Board is the ONLY licensing body to include full-fledged physicians to oversee the proper use of such therapies.

Thank you for your Business

CHARLES S. PRICE, M.D.

June 4, 2018

Irene Bustamante Adams
Chair of the Sunset Committee

Dear Chair Adams,

The Nevada Board of Homeopathic Medicine plays an important role in health care for Nevadans. It gives a home to physicians who wish to broaden their therapeutic options. I hope to see the Board continue to function as its own entity to encourage and regulate training for its licensees. I have attended many of the CME programs sponsored by the Nevada Homeopathic & Integrative Medical Association and have found them helpful in my more traditional medical practice. As well, I have had several of my patients benefit from care they have received by practitioners covered by this Board.

Thank you for your consideration,



Charles S. Price, MD, DFAPA, FACP
Board Certified in Psychiatry
Clinical Professor of Psychiatry
University of Nevada, Reno

Charlotte Curtis

From: Randolph Townsend <RandolphT@nbsstar.com>
Sent: Monday, June 4, 2018 4:05 PM
To: Charlotte Curtis
Cc: Inge Gerber
Subject: Board of Homeopathy

To Whom It May Concern, With health care being one of the nation's (& Nevada's) most challenging and important public challenges, Nevada's licensing boards vital role becomes increasing clear and relevant. They are charged with patient safety and practitioner standards while allowing the public to choose the modalities best suited for their needs. That was the public policy that I strived to maintain for my almost 30 years in the Nevada State Senate, with most of those as Chairman of Commerce and Labor, the committee of jurisdiction over all professional licensing boards.

Respectfully,

Randolph Townsend

Nevada State Senate (retired)