

Memorandum

To: House Human Services Committee  
From: Vermont Association of Naturopathic Physicians  
Date: April 11, 2016  
Re: S.243 – Controlled Substances and Pain Management Advisory Council

The Vermont Association of Naturopathic Physicians (VANP) is writing in support of S.243. It addresses some important issues related to opiate use and abuse in Vermont.

Naturopathic physicians treat chronic pain and provide primary care to an estimated 35,000 Vermonters. In addition to using diet, herbal, and other natural treatments to address pain, naturopathic physicians are also licensed to prescribe opiates and other pain medications.

VANP would like to request the following amendment to Section 14, 18 V.S.A. § 4255(b)

18 V.S.A. § 4255 Controlled Substances and Pain Management Advisory Council

(b)(1) The Controlled Substances and Pain Management Advisory Council shall consist of the following members:

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(XX) a representative of the Vermont Association of Naturopathic Physicians, who shall be a primary care provider;