

## ACT 226

H.B. NO. 1864

A Bill for an Act Relating to Acupuncture Practitioners.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:*

SECTION 1. Section 436E-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsections (b), (c), and (d) to read as follows:

“(b) [Before] Prior to September 1, 2000, and except as provided in subsection (c), before any applicant shall be eligible for the examination, the applicant shall furnish satisfactory proof to the board that the applicant has received a total of not less than one thousand five hundred hours of education and training consisting of:

- (1) A formal program in the science of acupuncture (traditional oriental medicine) at an institute or school approved by the board that:
  - (A) Shall be for a period of not less than two academic years (not less than six hundred hours); and
  - (B) Shall result in the award of a certificate or diploma; and
- (2) One clinical year in a clinical internship program (not less than twelve months and not less than nine hundred hours) supervised by a licensed acupuncturist [(not less than twelve months and not less than nine hundred hours)]; provided that the nine hundred hours of the clinical internship program may be obtained from the institute or school awarding the certificate or diploma or may be obtained under the supervision of a licensed acupuncturist not affiliated with an institute or school.

(c) Students who started training prior to December 31, 1984, in a school approved by the board prior to December 31, 1984, and who complete their training by December 31, 1989[:], and who file an application with the board before September 1, 2000 shall:

- (1) [Shall not] Not lose their rights of continued education, and earned or accumulated credits; and
- (2) [Shall, for] For the purposes of this chapter, meet requirements for examination and licensure as provided in chapter 436D and rules adopted by the board as they existed on December 31, 1984[.]; provided that the school has not altered its program so as to lower the standards for completion of the program. These students may qualify for examination if they submit evidence of having completed:
  - (A) At least eighteen months (not less than five hundred seventy-six hours) of academic training; and
  - (B) At least six months (not less than four hundred eighty hours) of clinical training in the practice of acupuncture on human subjects under the supervision of a licensed acupuncturist.

(d) [Students who started training prior to December 31, 1984, in a tutorship program approved by the board prior to December 31, 1984, who completed their training by December 31, 1989, and who file an application with the board by June 30, 1994:

- (1) Shall not lose their rights of continued education earned or accumulated credits; and
- (2) Shall, for purposes of this chapter, meet requirements for examination and licensure as provided in chapter 436D and rules adopted by the board as they existed on December 31, 1984; provided that the tutorship has not altered its program so as to lower the standards for completion of the program.] Notwithstanding

subsections (b) and (c), effective September 1, 2000, before any applicant shall be eligible for the examination, the applicant shall furnish satisfactory proof to the board that the applicant has completed a formal acupuncture program and has received a total of not less than two thousand, one hundred seventy-five hours of academic and clinical training consisting of an academic program of not less than one thousand, five hundred fifteen hours in the science of acupuncture (traditional oriental medicine) and a clinical training program of not less than six hundred sixty hours under the supervision of a licensed acupuncturist, which shall result in the award of a certificate or diploma at an institute, school, or college, accredited or recognized as a candidate for accreditation by any acupuncture or oriental medicine accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education or at a foreign institute, school, or college with a formal program in the science of acupuncture licensed, approved, or accredited by the appropriate governmental authority or an agency recognized by a governmental authority in that jurisdiction and whose curriculum is approved by the board.”

SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved June 16, 1997.)