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## Health Care & Wellness Committee

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### SSB 5152

**Brief Description:** Regarding naturopathic physicians.

**Sponsors:** Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care (originally sponsored by Senators Pflug, Keiser and Kohl-Welles).

<p><b>Brief Summary of Substitute Bill</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Makes changes to the scope of practice for licensed Naturopaths.</li></ul>
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**Hearing Date:** 3/10/11

**Staff:** Jim Morishima (786-7191).

**Background:**

Naturopathic medicine is the art and science of the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of disorders of the body through the natural processes of the body. Naturopathic medicine includes:

- manipulation (mechanotherapy);
- the prescription, dispensing, and use of nutrition and food science;
- physical modalities; i.e., the use of physical, chemical, electrical, and other noninvasive modalities such as heat, cold air, light, water in any of its forms, sound, massage, and therapeutic exercise;
- minor office procedures;
- homeopathy;
- naturopathic medicines;
- hygiene and immunization;
- nondrug contraceptive devices;
- common diagnostic procedures; and
- suggestion.

**Summary of Bill:**

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

Naturopaths are no longer limited to noninvasive physical modalities and nondrug contraceptive devices. Instead, naturopaths are authorized to use:

- physical modalities that do not exceed the physical modalities used on the effective date of the act in minor office procedures or common diagnostic procedures; and
- contraceptive devices.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available for House Bill 1228.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.