



# NATIONAL HEALTH FREEDOM ACTION

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## National Health Freedom Action STATE ACTION UPDATE

### Occupational and Other Laws Impacting Health Freedom

May 21, 2014

**NHFA is committed to supporting state bills promoting freedom of choice in health care such as:**

- State Safe Harbor Exemption laws to protect unlicensed natural health care practitioners;
- Expanded Care Practice Acts for holistic doctors and other holistic licensed professionals;
- Bills calling for mercury free vaccines;
- Protection of philosophical exemptions for vaccine mandates;
- Protection of access to raw unpasteurized foods such as raw milk and farm fresh products;
- Bills supporting the labeling of genetically modified foods;
- Bills that protect parent rights to choose alternative health care for their children; and
- Support of states that oppose mandatory participation in federal health plans.

The goal is to empower citizens to make health care decisions with the information they need.

**Note:** Regarding NHFA’s commitment to support **the passage of Safe Harbor Exemption bills for independent health care practitioners that do not hold state occupational licenses and are currently practicing in the public domain:** Historically these practitioners have been unfairly charged with practice of medicine without a license. Safe Harbor exemption laws for these practitioners are needed in order to protect consumer access to the broad range of health care and healing practitioners, such as herbalists, traditional naturopaths, homeopaths, body workers, and culturally specific healing practices, that are not currently regulated by the states and that do not rise to the level of concern requiring state oversight, certification, registration, or licensure. Nine states now protect consumer access to unlicensed health care practitioners, including *Oklahoma, Idaho, Minnesota, Rhode Island, California, Louisiana, New Mexico, Arizona* (limited exemption for homeopaths passed in Arizona ), and *Colorado*. Fifteen additional states have introduced similar legislation within the past ten years. Other states are preparing for the future.

The following is a table of bills having to do with OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE ISSUES that we have opposed or supported to protect health freedoms. Green indicates that a safe harbor law has passed, in some form, in that state.

#### Bill Activity as of May 21, 2014

State	Year	Bill	Action
Arizona	2013-2014	H.B. 2029 Laetrile – Prohibition	Oppose; no action taken since 2nd Reading on Jan. 16, 2014

#### Mission Statement

*To promote access to all health care information, services, treatments and products that the people deem beneficial for their own health and survival; to promote legislative reform of the laws impacting the right to access; and to promote the health of the people of this nation.*

	2011	S.B. 1175 mandating licensure of homeopaths that are not medical doctors	Opposed; Passed
	2011	S.B. 1382 freeing up use of title homeopath for homeopaths practicing under exemption laws	SUPPORTED and PASSED
<b>Arkansas</b>	2013	H.B. 1011 Naturopathic Doctor Licensure	Opposed and not passed before end of session
<b>California</b>	2013 – 2014	A.B. 1278 /S.B. 117 Integrative Cancer Treatment	Neutral; Died January 31, 2014
	2013-2014	S.B. 1381 GMO-Labeling	Supported; To be heard in Senate Appropriations Committee on May 23, 2014
	2012	GMO Labeling Ballot Initiative; 560,000 physical signatures required to earn a spot on the November 2012 Ballot	Supported and Failed
	2011	A.B. 575 Licensing Dietitians	Opposed and supported health freedom amendments; Withdrawn at request of author
	2005	A.B. 302 Naturopathic Doctor Registration	Supported Health Freedom safe harbor exemption amendments and Passed
	2001	S.B. 577 Safe Harbor exemption for unlicensed practitioners	SUPPORTED and PASSED
<b>Colorado</b>	2014	S.B. 14-032 Repeal of two year old child ban on treatment from natural health practitioners	Supported; Postponed indefinitely in the House April 3, 2014
	2014	S.B. 14-128, NP Licensure Act - Amend to add registration for non-4yr NP school grads	Opposed and Postponed Indefinitely on February 13, 2014
	2013-2014	S.B. 151 Certification to Licensure of Massage Therapists	Neutral and Passed
	2013	H.B. 1111 Naturopathic Doctor Licensure	Neutral and Passed
	2013	S.B. 215 Natural Health Consumer Protection Act	Supported and Passed but with negative amendment needing to be repealed; Signed June 5, 2013
	2012	H.B. 1060 Dietitian Licensing bill	Opposed and Testified; Tabled indefinitely
	2012	Health Freedom Safe Harbor Exemption for unlicensed practitioners drafted and ready for sponsorship	Supported; Tabled
	2011	H.B.11-1173 Naturopathic Doctor Licensure bill	Opposed and Defeated
	2010	H.B. 1371, “Colorado Health Freedom Act”, a Safe Harbor Exemption bill, introduced	Supported; postponed indefinitely in Committee on 4/5/2010
	2009	H.B. 115 Naturopathic Physician Registration	Opposed and Defeated
	2007	H.B. 1158 Health Freedom Safe Harbor Exemption bill introduced	Supported; Tabled
<b>Connecticut</b>	2014	H.B. 5327 Practice of classical homeopathy and complementary and alternative health care	Support; Favorable report and Tabled for the Calendar April 10, 2014
	2013	H.B. 6527 Mandatory GMO Labeling	Support and Passed; Adopted December 2013
	2013	H.B. 6389 Colon Hydrotherapy Certification and Referral by Licensed Naturopath	Opposed and Passed July 2013
	2013	H.B.5444/S.B. 873 Colon Hydrotherapy Registration	Opposed and Failed
	2012	H.B. 5117, “An Act Concerning Genetically-Engineered Foods”	Supported; not passed before end of session
<b>Delaware</b>	2008	S.B. 317 Dietitian Licensing bill	Supported health freedom amendments and Passed
<b>Florida</b>	2013	S.B. 720/H.B. 1189 Deregulation of some professions: Example hair braiding	Supported; Died May, 2013
	2007	Drafting committee for merged Naturopathic regulation bill for health freedom of multiple parties and orgs	Not introduced
	2004	S.B. 1474/H.B. 801 Safe Harbor Exemption bill	Supported; Tabled
	2001	Florida Statute 456.41 Complementary or alternative health care treatments law for licensed health care providers such as MDs	Enacted
<b>Hawaii</b>	2014	S.B.2439 /H.B. 2091 Herbal Therapy Licensure	Opposed; no movement since introduced
	2014	Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 31-14, Sunrise Review of Herbal Therapy Licensure	Opposed; (H) recommended adoption on April 25, 2014
	2014	S.B.2750 Colon Hydrotherapy Licensure	Opposed; no movement since introduced

	2013	S.B.195/H.B.1366 Herbal Therapy Licensure	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2013	Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 58-13 Study Regarding Herbal Licensure	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2012	H.B. 2031, S.B. 2279 2443, 2478, and 2891 – Requiring GMO-Labeling	Supported; not passed before end of session
	2012	S.B. 2832/H.B. 2570 Dietitian Licensing bill	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2007	H.B.631, S.B. 739 Safe Harbor exemption for unlicensed practitioners	Supported; Tabled
	2006	S.B. 2099 Homeopathic exemption from licensure requirements	Supported; Tabled
	2004	H.B.2036 Safe Harbor Exemption bill for unlicensed practitioners	Supported; Tabled
<b>Idaho</b>	2014	H.B. 566, Naturopathic Licensure	Oppose; Referred to Health and Welfare Feb. 27, 2014
	2010	S.B. 1369 Safe Harbor Exemption from Naturopathic Physician Act	Supported and Passed
	1976	Most historic Safe Harbor Exemption bill	Passed
<b>Illinois</b>	2013 - 2014	H.B.3645 Licensing of Naturopathic Doctors	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2014	Safe Harbor Bill – Working to find sponsors	Supported
	2013	S.B. 1168 Licensing of Naturopathic Doctors	Opposed; Deferred to 2014
	2013	S.B. 1651/H.B.3368 Colon Hydrotherapy Licensure	Opposed; Deferred to 2014
	2013	Safe Harbor Bill – Working to find sponsors	Supported; not introduced
	2012	S.B. 2936 Dietitian Nutrition Licensing	Opposed and supported health freedom amendments which were rejected; Effective Date December 28, 2012
	2012	S.B. 3922, Naturopathic Medical Practice Act	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2011	S.B. 2936 Dietitian Nutrition Licensing	Opposed; not passed before end of session
<b>Indiana</b>	2014	H.B.1293/S.B. 348 Massage Certification to Licensure	Oppose; no movement since introduced
	2013	H.B. 1272 Dietitian Licensing	Opposed; not passed
	2012	H.B. 1187 Dietitian Licensing	Opposed; not passed before end of session
<b>Iowa</b>	2014	H.S.B. 528/S.S.B. 3013 Dietitian Licensure – Study Bill	Opposed; no movement since introduced
	2014	H.S.B. 577/S.S.B. 3139 Naturopathic Licensure – Study Bill	Opposed; Died on Feb. 13, 2014 – to be worked on over the summer
	2012	H.B. 507 / S.B. 3022 Naturopathic Licensure	Opposed and Tabled
	2012	H.F. 375 Requiring GMO-Labeling for certain products	Supported; not passed before end of session
	2011	S.S.B. 1066, S.F. 293 Licensure of Naturopathic Doctors	Opposed and Tabled
	2008	S.F. 2168 Safe Harbor Exemption health freedom bill	Supported; Tabled
	2004-2007	Safe Harbor Exemption health freedom bills	Supported; Tabled
<b>Kansas</b>	2014	H.B. 2187 Massage Licensure	Neutral; heard on Jan. 29, 2014 – no vote taken
	2014	S.B. 67, Adding Philosophical Exemption to Immunization Requirements	Supported; Failed
	2001	S.B. 276 Naturopathic Doctor Licensing bill	Opposed; Passed Health Freedom amendments rejected
<b>Louisiana</b>	2008	Safe Harbor Exemption health freedom law amendments	Supported and Passed
	2005	S.B.189 Safe Harbor Exemption bill	SUPPORTED and PASSED
<b>Maine</b>	2013	HP 490 Mandatory GMO Labeling – with triggering clause	Supported and Passed to be enacted on June 12, 2013
	2013	HP 505 Vaccine Ingredient Transparency	Supported; Did not pass
<b>Maryland</b>	2014	H.B. 402/S.B. 314 Naturopathic Medicine Licensing; broad scope, no exemptions	Opposed; Approved by the Governor April 14, 2014
	2014	H.B. 1156/ S.B. 817 Massage Licensing restrictions and exclusive exemptions	Opposed; withdrawn in both bodies Feb. 2014
	2013	S.B. 783/H.B. 1029 Naturopathic Doctor Licensure	Opposed; Did not pass
	2012	S.B. 180/ H.B. 620 Naturopathic Physician Licensing	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2010	H.B. 541/ S.B. 357 Safe Harbor Exemption Bills	Supported; hearing held with no vote taken in

			both House and Senate
	2009	H.B. 1380 Exemption bill but with registration for unlicensed persons	Opposed and Tabled
	2008	H.B. 730 Safe harbor Exemption health freedom bill	Supported; no action taken
	2007	Mercury Free dentistry – expanded practice bill for Dentistry	Supported; Passed and Vetoed by Governor
<b>Massachusetts</b>	2013 - 2014	H.B. 1898 Naturopathic Services Insurance Coverage	Opposed; no action taken
	2013 - 2014	H.B. 3674 Naturopathic Registration restricting the use of the title “naturopath” and defining naturopathic health care	Opposed; reported favorably by Public Health committee and referred to the committee on House Ways and Means on May 14, 2014
	2013	S.B. 1091/H.B. 2003 Naturopathic Doctor Registration	Opposed; replaced by H.B. 3674
	2012	S.B. 1158/H.B. 2367 Naturopathic licensing	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2011	S.B. 1158/H.B. 2367 Naturopathic licensing	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2009	MA bill filing No. 111409 Health Freedom Safe Harbor Exemption health freedom bill	Supported; not passed before end of session
<b>Michigan</b>	2013	H.B. 4688/S.B. 579 Deregulating Dietetics/Nutrition	Supported; not passed before end of session
	2013	H.B. 4152 Licensing of Naturopathic Doctors	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2013 – 2014	H.B. 4738 Health Freedom Safe Harbor Exemption bill	Supported; not passed before end of session
	2012	H.B. 4789 Health Freedom Safe Harbor Exemption bill	Supported; not passed before end of session
	2012	H.B. 5594, licensure of naturopathic physicians	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2011	H.B. 4789 Safe Harbor exemption bill	Supported; not passed before end of session
	2006	S.B. 403 Dietitian Licensing	Opposed; supported safe harbor amendments for unlicensed practitioners; Bill passed with no freedom amendment
<b>Minnesota</b>	2014	HF 3140 Mandatory GMO Labeling	Supported; informational hearing only
	2014	SF 1792/HF 1925 Massage and Bodywork Registration	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2014	SF 1642/HF 1817 Expanded Practice Act for Licensed Practitioner providing Complementary and Alternative Health Care	Opposed but Support after health freedom amendments added; not heard in House, passed Senate policy committee as amendment to S.B. 2087, Health Omnibus bill. HF2402 and SF 2087 went to Conference Committee, SF 1642 was included in Committee Report for adoption; adopted and presented to governor May 2014
	2012	H.F. 255/S.F. 147 Raw Milk Delivery	Supported; not passed before end of session
	2012	Amendment to Agricultural Omnibus bill clarifying MN’s Constitutional right to peddle products of the farm or garden	Supported; no vote in House and defeated in Senate
	2012	H.F. 2808 / S.F. 2563 Requiring GMO-Labeling	Supported; not passed before end of session
	2011	HF 255 Raw Milk delivery	Supported; informational hearing in House but not passed before end of session
	2010	HF 1503 Massage Licensure	Opposed and Defeated
	2009	Assessment of Naturopathic regulation task force	Participated as member of task force and crafted clarifying amendments
	2008	HF1724 Naturopathic Medicine Registration	Opposed: supported health freedom amendments exempting traditional naturopaths; Passed
	2000	HF 537/S.B. 689 Complementary and Alternative Health Care bill	SUPPORTED and PASSED
<b>Mississippi</b>	2014	H.B. 1420/S.B. 2789 Allow philosophical Exemption	Supported; Died February 2014
<b>Missouri</b>	2014	H.B. 1891 Deregulation of 8 professions and allows practice without license	Supported; to Professional Registration and Licensing April 2, 2014
	2013	H.B. 659 Occupational Deregulation	Supported; not passed before end of session
	2012	H.B. 984, H.B. 2088 Requiring GMO-Labeling	Supported; not passed before end of session
<b>Montana</b>	2009	S.B. 287 Safe Harbor Exemption health freedom bill	Supported; not passed before end of session

<b>Nevada</b>	2013	S.B. 220 Board authority to enter premise where medicine is practiced w/o license	Opposed; Adopted June 2013
	2013	A.B. 341 Homeopathic certificate assistant or advanced practitioner	Opposed; Adopted May 2013
	2011	A.B. 289 Dietician Licensing	Opposed, adopted safe harbor health freedom amendment; PASSED
	2011	S.B. 412 Complementary Integrative Medicine (CIM) Licensing bill	Opposed and Defeated
	2009	S.B. 69 regulating all unlicensed practitioners under Integrative Medical Board	Opposed and did not move
	2009	S.B. 269 Safe Harbor health freedom exemption bill	Supported; put aside until next session
<b>New Hampshire</b>	2013 - 2014	H.B. 808 Mandatory GMO Labeling	Supported; not passed before end of session
	2007	H.B. 908 Regulate all bodywork and Reiki	Opposed and Defeated
<b>New Jersey</b>	2014	A.B. 2826/S.B. 855/S.B. 1661 Dietitian/Nutritionist Licensing	Oppose; no movement since introduced
	2014	S.B. 1190 Naturopathic Doctor Licensing	Opposed; no movement since introduced
	2014	S.B. 1068 Amend Massage and Bodywork Licensing Act	TBD; no movement since introduced
	2013	A.B. 2128/S.B. 2896 Dietitian and Nutritionist Licensing	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2013	S.B. 3035 Exempt Reiki from Massage and Bodywork	Neutral; no action taken since introduced 11/14/2013
	2012	H.B. 1367 Requiring GMO-labeling	Supported; not passed before end of session
	2012	S.B. 833 Dietitian/Nutrition Licensing	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2010-2011	S.B. 809/A.B. 1987 Dietitian/Nutritionists Licensing bills	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2008-2009	S.B. 1941/A.B. 2933 Dietitian/Nutritionists Licensing bills	Opposed; not passed before end of session
<b>New Mexico</b>	2009	H.B. 664 Safe Harbor Exemption health freedom bill	SUPPORTED AND PASSED
<b>New York</b>	2013 - 2014	A.B. 7860/ S.B.4828 Naturopathic Doctor Licensure	Opposed; to Assembly Higher Education Committee Jan. 2014
	2013 - 2014	A.B. 1388 Incorporate all Complementary and Alternative Medicine into Practice of Dietetics	Opposed; to Assembly Higher Education Committee Jan. 2014
	2013 - 2014	S.B. 4999/ A.B. 7316 Dietetics Licensing	Opposed; Passed Senate Higher Education Committee and sent to Finance May 13, 2014
	2013 - 2014	S.B. 2954/A.B. 5329 Reflexology Licensing	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2012	S.B. 3556/A.B. 5666 Dietitian Licensing	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2012	S.B. 1803/A.B. 3057A and A.B. 8569 Naturopathic Licensure bills	Opposed and recommended amendment to exempt unlicensed practitioners; not passed before end of session
	2011	S.B. 3556 /A.B. 5666 Dietitian/Nutritionists Licensing bills	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2011	S.B. 1803 and A.B. 1937 Naturopathic Doctor Licensing bill	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2008	A.B. 8733 Safe Harbor Exemption Health Freedom bill	Supported; not passed before end of session
<b>North Carolina</b>	2013	S.B. 349 Naturopathic Doctor Licensure	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2013	H.B. 676 Eliminate Dietetics Nutrition Board	Supported; not passed before end of session
	2012	H.B. 446 Requires labeling of food and milk products that are or that contain genetically modified food and or milk and milk products from animals that have received Recombinant Bovine Growth Hormone (Rbgh).	Supported; not passed before end of session
	2011	S.B. 31 Felony law increasing penalties for misrepresenting oneself as a licensed medical doctor	Opposed and offered amendments; Passed with amendments after conference committee and signed by Governor
	2011	S.B. 467 Naturopathic Licensing bill	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2007-2009	H.B. 842 Safe harbor exemption bills	Supported; not passed before end of session
<b>Ohio</b>	2013 - 2014	H.B. 259 Complementary and Alternative Health Care Services Access	Supported; ready and waiting for Senate sponsor to introduce to Senate
	2012	H.B. 259 Complementary and Alternative Health Care Services Access	Supported, passed out of the House May 24, 2012 (66 to 29); introduced in the Senate May 29, 2012

	2011	H.B. 259 Complementary and Alternative Health Care Services Access	Supported; heard in the Committee on Health and Aging on September 21, 2011 but no vote taken
	2010	H.B. 442 Safe Harbor exemption health freedom bill	Supported; Not passed before end of session
	2009	Safe Harbor exemption health freedom bill	Supported; Not passed before end of session
	2008	H.B. 580 Safe Harbor exemption health freedom bill	Supported; Not passed before end of session
	2007	H.B. 148 Dietitian Licensing bill with registration for unlicensed practitioners	Opposed and Defeated
	2006	H.B. 117 Dietitian Licensing bill with registration for unlicensed practitioners	Opposed and Defeated
	2005	H.B. 117 Dietitian Licensing bill with exemption for unlicensed practitioners	Supported, but opposed after registration added; no action taken
<b>Oklahoma</b>	2012	H.B. 2509 repealing the police power protection sections of occupation practice acts, including dietetics, and consolidating the criminal and civil actions that can be taken against an "unlicensed" person	Opposed; but once occupation of dietetics removed, neutral
	2012	H.B. 2630, repealing Safe Harbor exemption language	Opposed; Did not move before session ended
	1994	Exemptions for practices not allopathic mentioning protection of homeopathic	Passed
<b>Oregon</b>	2013	H.B. 2996 acupuncture – restrict supplement and dietary	Opposed; not passed before end of session
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	2013	H.B. 612 Naturopathic Doctor Licensure	Neutral; Not passed before end of session
	2012	H.B. 1717 Naturopathic Licensure	Opposed; Not passed before end of session
	2011	H.B. 1717 Naturopathic Licensure	Opposed; Not passed before end of session
	2008	H.B. 2499 Massage Therapy licensure	Opposed; Passed
<b>Rhode Island</b>	2014	H.B. 8070/S.B. 2874 Naturopathic Licensure	TBD; Introduced April and died May 2014
	2012	H.B.7494 Requiring GMO-Labeling	Supported; ; not passed before end of session
	2001	Safe Harbor Exemption bill: TITLE 2 , Health and Safety, CHAPTER 23-74, Unlicensed Health Care Practices, SECTION 23-74-1	SUPPORTED AND PASSED
<b>South Dakota</b>	2012	H.B. 1170 Emerging Complementary and Alternative Health Care Professions Licensure Board bill	Opposed and Tabled
<b>Tennessee</b>	2012-2013	H.B. 3678 Requiring GMO-Labeling	Supported; not passed before end of session
<b>Texas</b>	2013	HJR 125 Health Freedom Constitutional Amendment proposal	Supported; not passed before end of session
	2011	H.B. 1716 Complementary and Alternative Health Care Services bill	Supported; No vote taken
	2009	S.B. 40 Safe Harbor exemption health freedom bill	Supported; Tabled at 1 <sup>st</sup> hearing
	2007	S.B. 1209 Dietitian Licensing	Opposed and Defeated
<b>Utah</b>	2014	H.B. 324 Exemption for Ortho-bionomy and professions with standards and ethics	Opposed; Passed March 20, 2014
	2014	H.B. 207 Exemptions for Ortho-bionomy and needing to be an industry occupation	Opposed; Passed March 19, 2014 (superseded H.B. 324)
<b>Vermont</b>	2014	H.B. 644 Massage Licensure	Opposed; no action taken since referred to committee on Government Operations on 1/21/2014
	2013 - 2014	H.B. 112 Mandatory GMO Labeling	Supported, Passed and signed into law May 8, 2014
	2012	H.B. 722 Requiring GMO-Labeling	Supported; not passed before end of session
<b>Virginia</b>	2011-2012	H.B. 345 Dietitian Licensing bill	Opposed and Tabled
	2011-2012	H.B. 543 Massage Licensing bill	Opposed, but after successful negotiations for health freedom amendments, became neutral; Governor vetoed
	2012	S.B. 606 Requiring GMO-Labeling	Supported; not passed before end of session
	2011	H.B. 2487 Naturopathic Licensing bill	Opposed; Tabled
	2010	Study bill to not include traditional naturopaths	Opposed and Defeated
	2009	H.B. 1744 Safe Harbor Exemption health freedom bill	Supported; Tabled Indefinitely

	2009	H.B. 1820 Naturopathic Physician licensing bill	Opposed and Defeated
	2008	H.B. 784 Naturopathic Physician licensing bill	Opposed and Defeated
<b>Washington</b>	2013	I – 522 GMO Labeling Ballot Initiative	Supported and Failed November 2013
	2012	H.B. 2637 / S.B. 6298 Requires the labeling of foods containing genetically engineered material	Supported; not passed before end of session
	2009	H.B. 1961 Safe harbor exemption health freedom bill	Supported; No hearing
	2009	WA Dept. of Health Sunrise Review Hearing concerning registration of colon hydro therapist	Opposed registration: No regulation went forward
	2007	S.B. 6034/H.B. 2266 Safe harbor exemption health freedom bill	Supported; No hearing
<b>West Virginia</b>	2013	H.B. 2533 Dietitian Licensure	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2012	H.B. 4045 Dietitian Licensing bill	Opposed; not passed before end of session
	2012	H.B. 2178 Requiring GMO-Labeling	Supported; not passed before end of session
<b>Wisconsin</b>	2013 - 2014	S.B. 280, the Wisconsin Consumer Choice and Wellness Legislation	Supported; Redrafted and not introduced
	2012	S.B. 280, the “Wisconsin Consumer Choice and Wellness Legislation”	Supported; not passed before end of session
	2012	LRB 0253/1 Dietitian Licensing	Opposed and Defeated
	2011	LRB 0253/1 Dietitian Licensing	Opposed and Defeated
	2010	A.B. 440/ S.B. 115 Dietitian Licensing	Opposed and Defeated
	2009	S.B. 155 Dietitian Licensing	Opposed and Defeated
	2009	Safe Harbor Exemption health freedom bill	Supported; not passed before end of session
	2008	S.B. 394 Dietitian Licensing	Opposed and Defeated

**Arizona:** Quiet in 2013 and, so far, in 2014...No activity reported since June 2011 NHFA Update.

**Note Arizona - Enacted Health Freedom Law:**

**2011 Arizona Safe Harbor Exemption Law:** Arizona strengthened the law for independent homeopaths via passing a bill to repeal the criminal charges for the use of the title “homeopath” by unlicensed practitioners. The new law protecting the practice of hahnmanian principles, exempts and protects “*the practice of providing treatment of the spiritual vital force in accordance with hahnemanian principles through the use of remedies that are diluted beyond the concentration of substances in drinking water and prepared in the manner described in the homeopathic pharmacopoeia of the United States.*”

**Arkansas:** In 2013, Arkansas introduced HB 1011, a Naturopathic Practitioners bill, which would have jeopardized the ability of herbalists, traditional naturopaths, homeopaths, and many others to practice. Ultimately, the bill did not pass but it was recommended for study in the interim by the Joint interim Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor on March 21, 2013.

**California:** California is poised to become the fourth state to pass a mandatory GMO-Labeling law as CA S.B. 1381 has passed the House and is to be heard in the Senate Finance on May 23, 2014. NHFA supports S.B. 1381 and is eager to see whether 2014 is the year for GMO-labeling in CA. California deserves big congratulations for their GMO Labeling Ballot Initiative, Prop 37, in 2012! Although Prop 37 was narrowly defeated (48.5% to 51.5%), GMO-labeling advocates have many reasons to consider the California campaign a victory; for example, because they were outspent 5:1 and still managed to get over 6 million votes! The surge of GMO-related legislation introduced since Prop 37 is evidence that the tipping point is upon us and, hopefully, the groundwork has been laid to make labeling a reality this time around.

In 2013, California Citizens for Health Freedom worked to get rid of the ban on natural cancer treatments in CA. Attorney Rick Jaffe, who recently moved to Sacramento, helped Frank Cuny draft an amended bill which NHFA was willing to support. Unfortunately, A.B. 1278 /S.B. 117, bills which would have been the bills to amend relating to Integrative Cancer Treatment, died on January 31, 2014.

**Note California - Enacted Health Freedom Laws:**

**2001 California Safe Harbor Exemption Law:** California’s health freedom law protects consumer access to practitioners that are not conventional medical health care occupations licensed by the state, such as herbalists, traditional naturopaths, homeopaths, and other healing arts practitioners practicing in the public domain. Practitioners have an exemption from state medical licensing requirements if they practice within the safe harbor law which includes a duty to avoid prohibited conduct and to give out disclosures to their clients spelled out in the law.

**2005 safe harbor exemption** from naturopathic doctor registration requirements.

**Connecticut:** In 2013-2014, Connecticut introduced H.B. 5327, a bill to protect the right to practice classical homeopathy which was defined as complementary and alternative health care. The bill received a favorable report on April 10, 2014 from the legislative commissioner's office. NHFA supported this bill but did not agree with the requirement that all classical homeopaths had to be CCH certified to practice. A public hearing on the bill took place in March 2014 but no vote was taken.

Bravo to Connecticut in 2013 for becoming the first state to pass a bill requiring labeling of GMO/GE foods! CT H.B. 6527 was signed in December 2013 but it will go into effect only after four other states pass similar laws too. NHFA opposes this "trigger clause", along with other contingencies to enactment in the new law, but it is not unique to the language passed in CT's bill; still, we are hopeful it will go into effect soon given that Maine and Vermont passed GMO-labeling bills.

Also in 2013, Connecticut passed a law to protect the practice of colon hydrotherapy. Unlike the bills introduced in HI and IL (see below), H.B. 6389 does not establish a stand-alone regulation for practitioners of Colon Hydrotherapy; instead, CT now requires certification and referral by a licensed naturopath in order to receive these services. NHFA opposes this new law, which was passed in July 2013. NHFA also opposed the traditional registration bills, CT H.B.5444/S.B. 873, for Colon Hydrotherapists and these bills failed to pass in 2013.

**Colorado:** Congratulations to Colorado for becoming the ninth state with a Safe Harbor health freedom law! The Colorado Natural Health Consumer Protection Act, Colorado Senate Bill 13-215, was signed into law by Colorado Governor Hickenlooper on June 5, 2013. It protects consumer access to practitioners such as herbalists, traditional naturopaths, homeopaths, and other healing arts practitioners practicing in the public domain. Thank you to Colorado Sunshine Health Freedom Foundation and Colorado Coalition for Natural Health for their tireless efforts over the past eight years to get a health freedom bill introduced and successfully passed. Access to natural health practitioners is now protected for almost all Colorado consumers! The new law contained an amendment that was not supported by the health freedom community stating that unlicensed natural health practitioners would not treat children less than two years old and some restrictions on treating children less than eight years old. CSHFF and Parental Rights.org made a decision to work to repeal those portions in 2014.

In 2014 Senator Lundberg introduced the repeal bill, SB215. In April, NHFA sent Anne Tenner to CO to testify in support of SB14-215 in the House Health and Human Services Committee but despite the efforts of NHFA and CSHFF, as well as Colorado Springs Citizens for Health Freedom and ParentalRights.org, SB14-215 was postponed indefinitely on April 3, 2014. NHFA is committed to continue to work with these groups to remove the unconstitutional ban on natural health care for children.

Colorado also introduced a bill, HB1288, which would have put unnecessary additional requirements on parents before they utilize the current Colorado personal belief exemption when declining vaccines for their children. Thank you to the Colorado House Members who trust and support parents to make informed vaccination decisions without government interference. On Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, CO the House voted to accept a Senate amended version of the bill that protected parental rights on a vote of 39 yes and 29 no. Thanks to the National Vaccine Information Center whose efforts, along with those of several legislators, caused the removal of the unfair and burden on parents who decline or delay vaccines for their child. The bill now goes before the governor.

In 2013 a Naturopathic Doctors Licensing Bill, HB13-1111, also passed and efforts to amend that new law are already underway. For example, S.B. 14-128 sought to amend the law to add mandatory registration for graduates of a school other than one of the four-year program Naturopathy Schools. NHFA was not supportive of this requirement and other language changes because of its potential impact on the new health freedoms in CO. Fortunately, the bill was postponed indefinitely on February 13, 2014.

Also in 2013, SB 151, the Colorado Massage Therapy bill, passed. It changed the legal status of a massage therapist from Registered Massage Therapist to Licensed Massage Therapist. Changing a law from registering a profession to licensing a profession often makes the occupation more exclusive with harsher penalties for unlicensed persons to practice and, also, often makes services more expensive. However, in the instance of this Colorado S.B. 151, it appears that the licensing advocates have kept in place Colorado's strong protections and exemptions from violation for alternative forms of contact and body workers of all kinds, and it appears that the bill will not change those protections.



**Delaware: Quiet in 2013 - 2014...No activity reported since 2011 NHFA Update.**

**Note Delaware - Enacted Health Freedom Law:**

**2007 Delaware Safe Harbor Exemption clause** is in the DE Dietitian law for persons giving nutritional advice without being licensed as a dietitian. The amendment exempts persons from criminal charges of practicing Dietetics without a license who are herbalists, retailers, or other persons making recommendations as long as they do not hold themselves out as a licensed Dietitian or Nutritionist.

**Florida:** In 2013-2014 Florida introduced bills to require labeling of foods containing GMOs, however, none of the bills were successful; for example, HB 1 died in Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee on May 2, 2014. Also in 2013, Florida introduced occupational deregulation bills, S.B. 720/H.B. 1189. NHFA supported the bills which sought to reduce or in some cases eliminate the state regulation of some professions, for example hair braiding. The bills, however, died in committee in May, 2013.

Since 2004 Florida Health Freedom Coalition (an educational non-profit organization) and its sister organization Florida Health Freedom Action, a lobbying organization, have worked hard to promote safe harbor legislation but have not yet passed their bill. NHFA remains supportive of their efforts and looks forward to helping them strategize for the next session.

**Note Florida - Enacted Health Freedom Law:**

**2003 Florida Governor's Proclamation on Health Freedom** supports the right of unlicensed practitioners to practice and consumers to have access to those practitioners. (See Proclamation at: <http://www.nationalhealthfreedom.org/InfoCenter/reports/proclamation.pdf>)

**Hawaii:** NHFA has been watching Hawaii closely since 2012 when a restrictive bill to unnecessarily regulate the practice of herbal therapy was introduced. Again, in 2013 and 2014, bills to exclusively license the practice of Herbal Therapy were introduced in Hawaii. NHFA strongly opposed these bills, S.B.2439 /H.B. 2091, in 2014, and S.B.195/H.B.1366, in 1023-2013; fortunately, none of the bills received any movement after being introduced. In 2013, NHFA spoke with the group who put the bills forward and who want to protect the native herbalists about the benefits of a safe harbor exemption bill.

Although those bills did not pass, in 2014, Hawaii passed Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 31-14, Sunrise Review of Herbal Therapy Licensure in April 2014. This bill commits Hawaii to reviewing whether future regulation of the practice of herbal therapy is warranted in the state. NHFA is prepared to provide information to the Sunrise Review committee to persuade them recommend against Licensing for Herbal Therapists. Hopefully, the small number of people NHFA is in contact with who are interested in passing a safe harbor exemption law in Hawaii can come together this session to pass a bill that protects Herbalists and other natural health care practitioners alike.

Representative Evans remains a strong advocate for health freedom in Hawaii. Representatives Evans and Carroll introduced health freedom legislation in 2007 to protect access to unlicensed practitioners. The bill did not get a hearing and no action was taken by the legislature due to lack of grassroots and consumer presence, so Hawaii citizens are encouraged to gather together to make their voices heard.

In 2014, Hawaii also introduced bills to label GMO-containing foods and a bill to exclusively license colon hydro therapists, S.B.2750; NHFA supported the former and opposed the latter. While SB2750 to regulate colon hydro therapists did not move after being introduced, the GMO-labeling bills were heard in multiple committees in 2014 but also, ultimately, did not pass.

**Idaho:** In February 2014, Idaho introduced H.B. 566, relating to Naturopathic Licensure. The bill was referred to the House Health and Welfare Committee on Feb. 27, 2014, however, NHFA did not actively oppose this bill because Idaho is a health freedom state and the bill language did not appear to conflict with the current law for unlicensed practitioners. The bill has not moved out of the Health and Welfare committee to which it was originally assigned.

**Note Idaho- Enacted Health Freedom Laws:**

**2010 Idaho Safe Harbor Exemption law** for unlicensed practitioners to the Naturopathic Physician Act.

**1976 Idaho Oldest Safe Harbor Exemption law** exempting from medical licensing requirements:

*A person who administers treatment or provides advice regarding the human body and its functions that:*

- (i) Does not use legend drugs or prescription drugs in such practice;
- (ii) Uses natural elements such as air, heat, water and light;
- (iii) Only uses class I or class II nonprescription, approved, medical devices as defined in section 513 of the federal food, drug and cosmetic act;
- (iv) Only uses vitamins, minerals, herbs, natural food products and their extracts, and nutritional supplements; and who
- (v) Does not perform surgery;
- (vi) Requires each person receiving services to sign a declaration of informed consent which includes an overview of the health care provider's education which states that the health care provider is not an "M.D." or "D.O." and is not licensed under the provisions of this chapter.

**Illinois:** NHFA has supported Illinois citizens to start a health freedom group in Illinois, in response to the 2012 introduction of S.B. 2936, a restrictive Dietitian Licensing bill. Since that time two health freedom groups have formed: Illinois Citizens for Health Freedom and Illinois Sunshine Health Freedom Coalition! Both groups are eager to grow their memberships to support them in their effort to get a health freedom bill introduced.

Diane Miller traveled to Springfield, Illinois, in Nov. 2012, to help them amend a dietitian licensing bill, SB 2936, to include a health freedom of speech amendment. Unfortunately, the bill was passed without the amendment and it added a license for clinical nutritionists as well. The experience brought the people of Illinois together and demonstrated that, sometimes, a bad bill results in getting folks together to consider new legislation.

Also in 2013 and 2014, restrictive Naturopathic licensure bills (S.B. 1168/H.B.3645) and Colon Hydrotherapist licensure bills (S.B. 1186) were introduced into the same committee. Both of these types of bills, however, were defeated each session.

Regarding S.B. 1186, Licensing of Colon Hydro therapists, this exclusive bill had an exemption for natural health care practitioners. To make sure that natural health therapists were not in violation of the bill's broad definition of colon hydrotherapy and licensing requirements, the bill provided a broad exemption for complementary and alternative health care practitioners which read:

- (e) Nothing in this Act prohibits, restricts, or applies to persons that do not provide colonic irrigation, colon hydrotherapy, or colonic services who are practicing within the broad area of complimentary and alternative health care practices including, but not limited to, practices of detoxification, skin brushing, cleansing therapies, techniques used to stimulate reflex points in the abdomen, hands, and feet, the use of dietary supplements or homeopathic remedies, or encouraging healthy eating choices, lifestyle, and exercise.

NHFA again attended the Chicago Health Freedom Expo in June 2013, sponsored by The Healthkeeper's Alliance, and enjoyed reconnecting with and meeting many health freedom activists while in attendance.

**Indiana:** In 2014 Indiana sought to change its massage regulation from certification to licensure with H.B.1293/S.B. 348; however there has been no movement on the bill since it was introduced.

In 2013, Indiana introduced H.B. 1272, a bill to License Dietitian. The bill was opposed by NHFA and other health freedom and holistic health advocates and, fortunately, the bill was not passed before the end of the session. Similar to the bill introduced in 2012, the bill would've repealed certification of dietitians and required an individual who: (1) professes to be a licensed dietitian; (2) implies by words or letters that the individual is a licensed dietitian; or (3) engages in the practice of dietetics; to be licensed.

Indiana is a strong natural health state including the presence of Healthkeepers Alliance, the sponsor of the Health Freedom Expos, and Trinity College.

**Iowa:** H.S.B. 577/S.S.B. 3139, bills to study Naturopathic Licensure, were introduced in 2013 and NHFA reached out to the bill's sponsors early in 2014 to share our opposition with the language of the bill. Soon after, we learned that the bill was not going to move this session and would instead be worked on over the summer. NHFA and Iowa citizens can again thank Representative Muhlbauer and Patty Muhlbauer for helping to stop legislation in 2014 that would jeopardize the ability of herbalists, traditional naturopaths, homeopaths, and many others to practice in Iowa. The bills were officially dead on Feb. 13, 2014.

NHFA also opposed HS.B.528/SS.B.3013, study bills on Dietitian Licensure. Neither bill has moved since being introduced.

Iowa Health Freedom Coalition has historically been the face of health freedom at the Iowa capitol and worked to introduce a safe harbor bill in 2010 and oppose a Naturopathic Physician Licensing bill in 2010. The organization is currently not active but leaders came forth in the time of need in 2011, 2012 and 2014. In 2009, they introduced a safe harbor exemption bill, HF855, and also worked successfully on mercury-free vaccine legislation and on protection of children from Teen Screening. Sadly, the Chairman of the Health and Human Services committee in the House refused to give the safe harbor bill a hearing, blocking it from Committee discussions and votes. The bill would have exempted unlicensed practitioners, such as herbalists, traditional naturopaths, homeopaths, and many natural health care providers, from existing law of criminal charges of practicing medicine without a license.

**Kansas:** In 2014 S.B. 67, a bill to add a philosophical exemption to the immunization requirements was introduced. NHFA supported this bill but it failed to pass.

In 2001, Kansas passed a Naturopathic Doctor licensing bill. Kansas for Health Freedom is seeking a team to work for their own health freedom legislation. Two Board members from National Health Freedom Action and one Board member from national Health Freedom Coalition are located in Kansas and they participated in the gatherings and are very interested in joining together with advocates for health freedom. In addition, Dale Scott, national Board member of Sunshine Health Freedom Foundation, is located in Kansas and eager to gain supporters for their movement.

**Kentucky:** Quiet in 2013...No activity reported since 2011 NHFA Update. Sunshine Health Freedom Foundation has a coordinator in Kentucky named JD Riggs. National Health Freedom Action has been in contact with Riggs regarding possible health freedom bill language and Riggs is communicating with his Representative and is organizing to start on a Health Freedom Bill.

**Louisiana:** In 2014, Louisiana passed H.B. 1279, to authorize the incidental sales of raw milk, on May 8, 2014.

#### **Note Louisiana- Enacted Health Freedom Law:**

**2006 Louisiana Safe Harbor Law:** Louisiana is one of the eight states that have passed a safe harbor exemption health freedom law that provides safe harbor to the unlicensed practitioners. Louisiana Health Freedom Coalition (LHFC) has been very committed to having a stellar law to protect their natural health care practitioners and we commend LHFC and their wonderful President, Cynthia Reed, and her team for their national leadership in this effort.

**Maine:** Congratulations to Maine in 2013, for passing HP 490, a Mandatory GMO Labeling bill. Like the bill passed in Connecticut, the Maine GMO-labeling law has a triggering clause; meaning that it will not go into effect until more states in the NE United State also pass similar legislation. NHFA supported this bill and it was passed to be enacted on June 12, 2013.

Also in 2013, HP 505, Vaccine Ingredient Transparency, was introduced but failed to pass out of committee. NHFA supported this bill which would help parents and individuals an additional tool to make informed vaccination decisions.

There is no 2012-2014 news on Maine's work to get a safe harbor bill passed. In 2007, Maine LD 1516 and SP 539, entitled *the Act to Permit Certain Health Care Practices*, were introduced and on June 13<sup>th</sup>, the Majority "ought not to pass" report was accepted and the bills died. Maine is interested in building a larger freedom group now to work for the future.

**Maryland:** We are sad to report that in 2014 the restrictive H.B. 402/S.B. 314 Naturopathic Medicine Licensing bills passed in MD. S.B. 783/H.B. 1029, Naturopathic Doctor Licensure, were successfully opposed in 2013. The new law is broad in scope and contains no exemptions in it to protect natural health practitioners and traditional naturopaths from restrictive licensing and educational requirements. The bills were approved by the Governor on April 14, 2014. NHFA was not in contact with anyone in MD who was actively working to stop these bills in 2013. Please encourage anyone you know in MD to step forward to help get an exemption to this new restrictive law.

Also in 2014, Maryland unsuccessfully attempted to increase restrictions as to what types of practitioners were allowed to do healing bodywork under its Massage Licensing law with H.B. 1156/ S.B. 817. NHFA joined Healing Touch Program and other groups to oppose these bills and they were withdrawn in both bodies in Feb. 2014.

In 2010, Maryland got their health freedom bill, HB 541, introduced in the House and Senate and heard in both bodies! The bill was heard in both House and Senate with good turn out and education happening, but was not voted out of committee. They did not reintroduce the bill in 2011-2014 because the health freedom leaders had other commitments and one of the members of their advocate team became very ill.

**Massachusetts:** In 2014, Health Freedom Action Massachusetts leaders George A. Rhoades, PhD. and homeopath Janice Mancini welcomed a new addition to their leadership team, Hilary Garvis. Hilary is working to strengthen their numbers and prepare to reintroduce a safe harbor bill. We support their efforts. In 2009 Health Freedom Action Massachusetts promoted the introduction of a health freedom bill, MA bill filing number 111409, but the bill did not move forward.

Also in 2014 NHFA opposed Massachusetts H.B. 1898 because, although it was an attempt to get insurance coverage for natural health, it contained rigid compliance requirements for health seekers that would have forced them to make certain decisions or not get funds. HB1898 relates to insurance coverage for services by naturopaths but it unnecessarily infringes upon the healer-client relationship and consumer choice in attempting to do so.

In 2013, Massachusetts introduced H.B. 3674, a Naturopathic Registration bill, which sought to restrict the use of the title “naturopath” and to define naturopathic health care. HB 3647 replaced two similar bills, S.B. 1091 and H.B. 2003, and it was reported favorably by the Public Health Committee and referred to Health Care Financing at the end of 2013. NHFA opposed this bill and no action taken was taken on it by the House since 2013.

**Michigan:** The “Michigan Consumer Health Freedom Law”, introduced on June 16, 2011, is still alive in 2014 and the new bill number is House Bill No.4738. Michigan Natural Health Coalition and Michigan health freedom advocates are not mobilized at the present time but would welcome any new advocates to join the cause of getting a health freedom bill passed there. The health freedom bill will protect access to complementary and alternative practitioners, such as nutritional consultants, homeopaths and traditional naturopaths, who abide by the bill’s guidelines. Michigan Natural Health Coalition successfully blocked a restrictive Naturopathic Licensing bill from being submitted in 2011. Michigan is the home of Reiki International (www.reiki.org) and its founder and Director, William Lee Rand, Reiki Master. In the 2006-2007 session, a very restrictive Dietitian licensing bill, S403, passed without adequate exemptions for unlicensed nutrition providers. NHFA supported a safe harbor amendment to correct the inadequacy, but the amendment was ultimately rejected. NHFA supports the advocates who are currently working to correct that law.

2013 also saw the introduction of H.B. 4688/S.B. 579, bills to deregulate Dietetics/Nutrition. NHFA supported the bills, which were introduced as a result of a recommendation from Michigan’s Office of Regulatory Reinvention (ORR) that the Dietetics and Nutrition Licensing Board be eliminated, but they did not pass before the end of session. The ORR released its recommendations in June 2012, in a report entitled “Recommendations Regarding Occupational Licensing” (Feb. 2012). The ORR’s stated rationale for its recommendation was that, “The regulation of dietitians and nutritionists does not provide a clear public health and safety benefit.”

In 2013 H.B. 4152, Licensing of Naturopathic Doctors, was introduced but not passed before the end of session; NHFA opposed this bill. Additionally, Michigan’s Health Freedom bill, H.B. 4738, the Health Freedom Safe Harbor Exemption bill, was reintroduced in 2013 by the same sponsor of the bill in 2012. Unfortunately, the bill did not move and was not passed,

**Minnesota:** In 2014, NHFA supported Minnesota Natural Health – Legal Reform Project (MNH-LRP) in opposing a massage registration bill, S.B. 1792/H.B. 1925. The bill sought to register massage and bodywork therapists on a voluntary basis. NHFA opposed the bill because it had the potential to prohibit those who currently practice massage and bodywork under MN146A from delivering their services if a municipality decided to only allow registered practitioners to practice. The bill was not heard in House but it passed Senate Committees at which NHFA testified. Fortunately, the bill was not passed out of committee before session deadlines took place.

Also in 2014, S.F. 1642, the Expanded Practice Act for Licensed Practitioners, was re-introduced to protect and strengthen the right of licensed health care professionals to use complementary and alternative health care and refer to unlicensed practitioners. The new bill language was not identical to former versions of the Expanded Practice Act which NHFA had supported so NHFA had to oppose S.F. 1642 as written. But, after health freedom amendments were added, NHFA supported the bill and testified on behalf of it. The amended version was added to the MN Health Policy Omnibus bill, S.B. 2087. S.B. 2087 was engrossed on May 9, 2014.

NHFA also testified in support of Minnesota's H.F. 3140, Mandatory GMO Labeling, at an informational committee hearing in the House Commerce Committee in May 2014. The bill does not have a chance of passing in 2014 but NHFA is eager to help the bill pass out of both houses in 2015 so that MN can become the first mid-west state to require labeling of GMO-foods. Also in 2014, MN citizens are looking for signatures for their Petition for "Farm-to-Consumer Deliveries of Grass-fed Raw Dairy in Minnesota." The petition asks MN Gov. Dayton to un-do MN Statute 32.393 that restricts citizens from obtaining grass-fed raw dairy via home deliveries or agreed upon drop-sites. This statute allows Minnesotans to obtain raw dairy, but "only at the farm" and "only occasionally."

Minnesota Natural Health - Legal Reform Project (MNH-LRP), lead lobbying group for the famous MN146A Minnesota Complementary and Alternative Health Freedom of Access Act of 1999, continues to monitor bills at the state capitol to keep legislators informed about top priority issues for health freedom.

In 2013 NHFA testified at an agency rulemaking hearing in opposition to proposed additions to the Childhood Immunization schedule in MN. Unfortunately, the Administrative Law Judge approved the Department of Health's recommendations and the changes were added. NHFA has since amended its opposition testimony into a white paper on the Lack of Informed Consent in Vaccination Decision Making and we look forward to sharing this brief with health freedom groups facing similar challenges in their state as soon as it is finished.

**Note Minnesota - Enacted Health Freedom Law:**

**1999 Minnesota Safe Harbor Exemption Law:** MN146A Minnesota Complementary and Alternative Health Freedom of Access Act of 1999 was one of the first safe harbor laws passed!

**Missouri:** In Spring 2014 health freedom advocates in Missouri launched the Missouri Health Freedom Campaign to explore the possibility of passing a health freedom bill in their state. They have a campaign site and in April Diane Miller traveled to Kansas City and met with their leaders to discuss the process of passing a safe harbor law.

Missouri is among the states introducing deregulation legislation in 2013-2014. H.B. 1891, the Deregulation of eight professions and allowing the practice of professions without license was introduced in 2014 and, in 2013, NHFA was watching HB659. NHFA supports this bill and others like it which seek to ensure that the use of the state police power to regulate an occupation is no more restrictive than necessary to protect the public health and safety. HB 1891 was assigned to House Professional Registration and Licensing Committee in April 2014.

**Montana: Quiet in 2013...No activity reported since 2011 NHFA Update.** Continued gratitude for Montana health freedom leaders' three years of preparation, and Montana Health Freedom Coalition's work in 2009! The Consumer Health Freedom and Access Act, sponsored by Senator Balyeat, passed the Senate 32-18 on February 23, 2009! After passing the Senate Committees, on March 24, 2009, the health freedom bill, SB287, was tabled in a House Committee 14-4. Montana's bill would have provided a safe harbor exemption and protected access to herbalists, traditional naturopaths, homeopaths, and the many natural health care practitioners of Montana that consumers regularly use. We look forward to helping them introduce their bill again in the future.

**Nevada:** NHFA is sad to report that in 2013, Nevada passed two bills that restrict health freedom in the state: both S.B. 220, Board authority to enter premise where medicine is practiced without a license and A.B. 341, restrictive regulation of Homeopathic certificate assistants or advanced practitioners. Both bills passed in May, 2013.

The good news in 2014 in Nevada is that Sunshine Health Freedom Foundation is preparing to support Nevada health freedom leaders in lobbying and passing a health freedom bill in 2015. NHFA plans to support them in their effort and thereby remove the threats to consumers and practitioners of natural health that the new laws impose. Jim Jenks, Sunshine Health Freedom Foundation Coordinator in Nevada, is preparing to resume his efforts to move SB296, a Consumer Choice Protection bill, protecting consumer access to traditional and unlicensed natural health care practitioners, which National Health Freedom Action helped to draft.

**Note Nevada - Enacted Health Freedom Law:**

**2011 Nevada Safe Harbor Exemption clause** is in the Nevada Dietitian law for persons giving nutritional advice without being licensed as a dietitian. The clause exempts persons from criminal charges of practicing Dietetics without a license as long as they do not hold themselves out as a licensed Dietitian or Registered Dietitian.

In 2011 Nevada introduced A.B. 289, a Dietician licensing bill, which had very restrictive language regarding unlicensed persons giving nutrition recommendations and advice. In the bill's last committee when it appeared the bill had enough votes to possibly pass, we supported an amendment that exempted out unlicensed persons. The bill passed out of Committee and was signed by the Governor. The safe harbor amendment reads:

*Sec. 9. 1. The provisions of this chapter do not apply to: ... (d) A person who furnishes nutrition information, provides recommendations or advice concerning nutrition, or markets food, food materials or dietary supplements and provides nutrition information, recommendations or advice related to that marketing, if the person does not represent that he or she is a licensed dietitian or registered dietitian. While performing acts described in this paragraph, a person shall be deemed not to be engaged in the practice of dietetics or the providing of nutrition services.*

Nevada 2011 session also introduced S.B. 412, the Complementary Integrative Medicine (CIM) Licensing bill, a very controversial and restrictive bill regarding mandatory licensing of complementary health care that would have mandated that all persons have a license if they practiced "alternative and complementary systems of healing arts and holistic therapies, including, without limitation, homeopathy, modalities, diagnostics, treatments, procedures and protocols used to treat patients." The bill was successfully opposed and did not move forward.

**New Hampshire: Quiet in 2013-2014...No activity reported since 2011 NHFA Update.** NH activists continue to consider the possibility of introducing a safe harbor health freedom exemption bill to provide long-term protection of health freedoms in New Hampshire. In 2007, the International Center for Reiki Training supported New Hampshire activists in a grassroots challenge to an attempt to regulate Reiki under massage law; see H.B. 908, a bill to regulate all bodywork and Reiki. Thanks to them for their leadership role in the grassroots efforts.

**New Jersey:** Congratulations to the new health freedom group in New Jersey, the Natural Healing Alliance. Natural Healing Alliance contacted NHFA about amending the NJ massage law to be less restricting on the practices of energy healers and bodyworkers. NHFA was tracking a bill, SB 1608 (SB3035 in 2013), seeking to do just that and encouraged them to contact the sponsor of that bill, Sen. Bucco, to amend his language to make the exemption even stronger. NHFA looks forward to working with NHA to protect all natural healers.

In 2014 New Jersey introduced S.B. 91 to Label GMO Foods in the Senate and it was referred to the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee. The committee is not expected to meet again until May. NHFA encourages NJ health freedom advocates to use the interim time to contact legislators to tell them to support the bill when it is heard.

**New Mexico: Quiet in 2013...No activity reported since 2011 NHFA Update.**

**Note New Mexico - Enacted Health Freedom Law:**

**2009 New Mexico Safe Harbor Exemption Law:** New Mexico HB664 was signed into law by the Governor on April 7, 2009. New Mexico's Complementary and Alternative Medicine Project (NMCAAMP) leaders successfully moved their safe harbor exemption bill through to passage after two years of preparation and study mandated by the legislature. NMCAAMP is a health practitioner and freedom group that has worked to establish a safe harbor exemption law for persons engaged in traditional, cultural, complementary or alternative health care.

**New York:** In 2014, NHFA opposed NY S.B. 4999, Licensing Dietitians and Nutritionists. The bill was introduced on May 3, 2013 but was just scheduled for a hearing in the Senate Higher Education Committee hearing for May 13, 2014. S.B. 4999 seeks to change the laws in NY from certifying Dietitians and nutritionists to the more restrictive licensing Dietitians/Nutritionists. The small exemption in the bill for unlicensed practitioners was not written by health freedom advocates and is inadequate to protect all of the many practitioners practicing nutrition and naturopathy and other complementary and alternative health care practices.

In 2013, NHFA opposed S.B. 2954 Reflexologist Practitioner licensing bill but the bill did not pass before the end of session. Similarly, NHFA opposed a Naturopathic Doctor licensing bill which have been introduced but have failed to be scheduled for a hearing in 2013 and 2014.

In 2011, NHFA joined forces with talented NY leaders and health care practitioners to discuss a future for safe harbor health freedom legislation in NY in light of the historical perspective about bills that had been introduced by freedom advocates before and about what the head of the health committee indicated that he would need to move a bill. NHFA is hopeful to reconnect with these advocates in 2014-2015 and new advocates as well.

In the past NY has introduced very good safe harbor health freedom bills to protect the right to practice naturopathy, homeopathy, herbalism and many other vocations. However those bills have not passed. The last one was introduced January 30, 2007 by Assemblyman Michael Benedetto, A8733, to exempt unlicensed persons from criminal charges of practice of medicine. For the past 10 plus years New York has had two organizations working to protect health freedom and access to unlicensed practitioners, NY Health Freedom and NYNCP. However, at this time, those organizations are not active.

**North Carolina:** In 2013, NHFA strongly supported H.B. 676, a bill that sought to dissolve an offensive occupational monopoly on the world of nutrition by a private trade group, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (formerly the American Dietetic Association), who claim that only those dietitians with the endorsed trade group education can obtain licensure from the state of North Carolina. By removing the exclusive regulation, H.B. 676 supported cottage industries and independent practitioners of all kinds, including all natural health care practitioners, who are providing thousands of citizens with nutritional consultations and lifestyle coaching. H.B. 676 also would have increased consumer options in natural health care and would have had broad positive implications on the economy and health of North Carolina. Unfortunately, the bill did not pass.

In 2013, S.B. 349, NHFA opposed a restrictive Naturopathic Doctor licensing bill that was also introduced but did not pass.

North Carolina's Citizens for Healthcare Freedom and their lobbyist and Ex. Dir. Michael Causy have done great work in North Carolina keeping a steady presence at the capitol. We hope that in the future they will consider re-filing their Consumer Health Freedom Act. Originally introduced in the 2009 session, the Consumer Health Freedom Act would protect North Carolina's unlicensed traditional practitioners from charges of practicing medicine without a license.

The bill was "*developed over years of work by notable health freedom advocates, in conjunction with a yearlong 'legislative study' by a 'Legislative Study Committee.'* The study committee held a series of three public hearings in major NC cities (Raleigh, Asheville, New Bern) where more than four-hundred citizens expressed support for health freedom."

**Ohio:** In 2014, NHFA anxiously awaits the introduction into the Senate by their Sponsor, Senator Jordan, of the Ohio Consumer Health Freedom Bill. In 2012, H.B. 259 passed the House of Representatives. The session adjourned for the summer, and legislators did not return until after the elections in November. With only 4 weeks left in the session, the Senate did not proceed forward with the bill. The bill was reintroduced in the Ohio General Assembly in 2013 and the work to find a sponsor in the Senate who will help to promote the concept of our safe harbor bill was a success. Now, the bill is awaiting introduction and a strong grassroots effort is under way to flood the Senate as soon as there is a bill number.

The Ohio Consumer Health Freedom bill protects consumer access to homeopaths, traditional naturopaths, nutritional consultants, and many other natural health and complementary and alternative practitioners providing services that do not rise to the level of concern requiring state licensure.

Ohio Sunshine Health Freedom Coalition is a strong freedom organization with a mission to establish true health freedom in Ohio by passing "THE REAL HEALTH FREEDOM BILL" without a mandatory registration requirement. Ohio freedom advocates have persistently prepared for session and now they are moving a safe harbor exemption bill to protect access to all unlicensed practitioners in Ohio. The group has worked hard reviewing language and garnering legislative support including hiring a lobbyist and aligning with other organizations in order that their bill will be successful in passage.

**Oklahoma:** Quiet in 2013-2014...No reported activity since 2011 NHFA Update.

**Note Oklahoma - Enacted Health Freedom Law:**

**1994 Oklahoma homeopathic exemption law:** Oklahoma passed the law that distinguished allopathic medicine from homeopathic care. Oklahoma is a health freedom state! Oklahoma Health Freedom Action Network has been a health freedom leader in Oklahoma and has worked hard to defeat restrictive licensing bills in the past years that would restrict access to natural and holistic practitioners.

**Oregon:** In 2013, Oregon introduced a bill to amend the acupuncture practice act to further restrict supplement and dietary advice by unlicensed practitioners. NHFA opposed this bill and was grateful that the bill did not move this session. 2013 also saw the introduction and failure of several GMO-labeling related bills.

Oregon launched a new health freedom group in 2012 and we are awaiting more information on their contact information. In addition Sunshine Health Freedom Foundation has Coordinators Mark and Sylvia Rogers in Oregon.

**Pennsylvania:** In 2013 leaders of the Pennsylvania Natural Health Freedom Coalition (PANHFC) put on hold their work to find sponsors for their Safe Harbor bill. The group has draft language ready for introduction but is currently working informally and assessing their resources before moving ahead.

In 2013, NHFA was neutral on a Pennsylvania bill, HB 612, Licensing of Naturopathic Doctors, because it contained an unprecedented protective exemption in it for unlicensed natural health practitioners. In the past NHFA worked to defeat Pennsylvania bills similar to HB612 introduced for a number of years, collaborating with groups that oppose the naturopathic doctors being the only practitioners that can exclusively provide natural health care services.

**Rhode Island:** In April 2014, Rhode Island introduced H.B. 8070/S.B. 2874, bill relating to Naturopathic Licensure. NHFA did not actively oppose these bills because RI is a health freedom state and the bill language did not appear to conflict with the current law for unlicensed practitioners. Although the bill was recommended for further study on May 6, 2014, and so it is technically dead for the year, NHFA will continue to monitor licensing bills introduced in health freedom states for potential conflicts with health freedom laws.

Rhode Island H.B. 7042 mandates labeling of GMO foods is no longer alive this session. Introduced in January 2014, H.B. 7042 was referred to the House Health, Education and Welfare Committee which recommended the bill be held for further study soon after. H.B. 7042 would've required that food and food products derived from or containing genetically modified organisms be labeled as such by the manufacturer, retailer or other person before putting it on the market for sale in RI.

**Note Rhode Island - Enacted Health Freedom Law:**

**2000 Rhode Island Safe Harbor Exemption law.** Rhode Island followed Minnesota in its passage and the language of the law is similar and broader in model. Coalition for Natural Health ushered this bill through the legislature, and National Health Freedom Action offered support.

**South Carolina:** NHFA has contacts in South Carolina and it is our hope that they begin to put a health freedom group together to pass a safe harbor exemption bill. Contact NHFA for more info.

**South Dakota: Quiet in 2013 – 2014...No activity reported since 2011 NHFA Update.**

Efforts to introduce a safe harbor bill for natural health care in South Dakota took place in 2012 with NHFA providing draft language for such a bill to South Dakota Senator Holien. We look forward to future collaboration with South Dakota on this effort.

**Tennessee:** Quiet in 2013 - 2014...No activity reported since 2012 NHFA Update.

**Texas:** Texas Health Freedom Coalition is mobilizing in 2014 and preparing to launch two bills in the 2015 legislative session that will protect access to natural health practitioners. One bill will address the statutory practice of natural health practitioners, and one bill will address the constitutional issues of citizen choice in health care.

In 2013 Texas introduced HJR 125, Health Freedom Constitutional Amendment proposal. NHFA supported this effort but the bill was not passed before the end of session. Over the last three legislative sessions, the Texas Health Freedom Coalition has exerted efforts to pass health freedom legislation in Texas and in the 2011 legislative session, they were successful in getting companion bills heard by both the House Public Health and Senate Health and Human Services Committees. Texas legislature is currently in an "Off" session in 2014. The TX Health Freedom bills are being considered for reintroduction in 2015.

**Utah:** 2014 has brought new contacts in Utah and Utah health freedom activists are beginning to organize again to introduce a safe harbor health freedom bill to protect the rights of natural health care practitioners to practice. Utah leaders had previously in 2009 introduced a bill that did not pass. However they are hopeful that they are gathering the forces to go to the legislature again. NHFA has provided leaders with a draft of a Safe Harbor bill. We are hopeful that the group will rally to pass a health freedom bill in Clinton Miller's home state.



Also in 2014, Utah successfully amended its massage practice act to provide an exclusive exemption for practitioners of ortho-bionomy, H.B. 324/H.B. 207 provides standards and ethics for those claiming to be exempt under the new law; NHFA opposed the bill because of the restrictive requirements to practice and it was passed out the second chamber on March 20, 2014.

We are sad to report the loss of Clinton Miller in 2013. Clinton Miller was a leading health freedom strategist and advocate in the United States health freedom movement, and an essential team player on crucial conference calls and meetings that have to discern how to move forward. Clinton started his political action career in Utah in the 1950's, 8 times defeating water fluoridation proposals. In 1962 he went to Washington, and from '62 to '76 helped to oppose a proposal by the FDA which would have limited potency of vitamins and minerals, finally helping to pass the Proxmire bill, which said the FDA could not limit potency unless it was found to be intrinsically dangerous. This bill became the basis of DSHEA, the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994. He also helped to pass a bill saying that in medical research, human beings could not be used as guinea pigs without informed consent. From 1976 - 1996 he worked as the Executive Director of the National Health Federation.

Clinton also worked as a health freedom legislative advocate for Sunshine Health Freedom Foundation, led the development of a resolution to demand that persons representing the US in international forums represent US law and the wishes of the people is the basis for the SHFF Codex campaign launched nationally and in Washington DC. Clinton Miller was also a Board Member of National Health Freedom Action and was instrumental to our work on health freedom bills at the state, federal and international level. He lived in St. George, Utah. He will be truly missed.

**Vermont:** On April 16, 2014, the Vermont Senate passed the first no-strings-attached GMO labeling bill (H.B.112) by an overwhelming margin—28-2. The bill sailed through a House/Senate conference committee, was approved by the House of Representatives on April 23, and signed into law on May 8, 2014. Any genetically engineered food sold in Vermont must be labeled by July 1, 2016. Food served in restaurants, alcohol, meat, and dairy products are exempt from labeling however. Foods containing GMO ingredients will also not be allowed to be labeled "natural."

This is truly an historical moment that will likely reverberate across the US in coming years. As noted by Ronnie Cummins in a recent Huffington Post article: "Strictly speaking, Vermont's H.112 applies only to Vermont. But it will have the same impact on the marketplace as a federal law. Because national food and beverage companies and supermarkets will not likely risk the ire of their customers by admitting that many of the foods and brands they are selling in Vermont are genetically engineered, and deceptively labeled as 'natural' or 'all natural' while simultaneously trying to conceal this fact in the other 49 states and North American markets." Congratulations Vermont!

**Virginia:** Virginians for Health Freedom continue in 2014 their hard work to lay the ground work for introducing a health freedom bill in Virginia. They introduced H.B. 1744, a health freedom safe harbor exemption bill, in 2009 and we're eager to support them in doing so again in future legislative sessions.

**Washington:** Congratulations to Washington for their successful effort to get I-522, an initiative to Label GMO Foods, onto the November 2012 ballot. Unfortunately, the initiative received similar opposition from Big-Ag and Big-Food as did CA Prop 37 and I-522 failed to pass. NHFA continued to support GMO-Labeling bills introduced into the WA legislature but none have passed into law.

In 2012 Senator Chase and Representative Condotta introduced GMO-Labeling bills, S.B. 6298 /H.B. 2637, respectively, to require the labeling of foods containing genetically engineered material. S.B. 6298 had a public hearing in the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Water & Rural Economic Development on January 26, 2012 and H.B. 2637 had a public hearing in the House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources on January 27, 2012. Washington health freedom activists testified in favor of the bill in each chamber. Unfortunately, the bills did not move out of committee and they were reintroduced and retained in present status on April 11, 2012.

Health Freedom Washington, a Washington group of activists who were previously working in support of a safe harbor bill for natural health practitioners were inactive in 2011-2014 sessions. In the past this group has held successful meetings with legislators and regulators and have worked hard to build consensus among all parties and to find a sponsor that will be a champion for health freedom. WA is unique in that they currently have legislative intent stating that the state does not expect all health care practitioners to be licensed. However, the intent has not held up in cases against the unlicensed practitioners. Health freedom is under major attack in WA. At least seven licensed and unlicensed practitioners that provide alternative

health care have been investigated in the past six years. In response to the investigations, activists have formed organizations with the goal of changing the laws.

**West Virginia:** In 2013, NHFA opposed H.B. 2533, a restrictive Dietitian licensing bill introduced in January 2013. The bill sought to convert the current title act into a practice act which would jeopardize the practices of many natural health practitioners, but the bill did not pass before the end of session and a similar bill has not been introduced in 2014.

**Wisconsin:** In 2014 Wisconsin Health Freedom Coalition continued their commitment to work to move forward S.B. 280, the “Wisconsin Consumer Choice and Wellness Legislation” by hiring a lobbyist to help get the bill out of drafting and introduced in the Senate in the 2013-2014 session. Wisconsin’s bill will protect consumer access to complementary and alternative health care practitioners practicing within the parameters of the bill. NHFA sent attorney Anne Tenner to WI in January 2014 to meet and train WI’s new lobbyist during meetings at the WI Capitol, including meeting with the sponsor of SB 280, Sen. Moulton. Unfortunately, the language that came out of the revisor’s office needed revisions and WIHFC will work over the summer to obtain edits to the language so it is ready for introduction again in 2015.

From 2008 to 2010 the Wisconsin Health Freedom Coalition in collaboration with many other groups and health freedom advocates successfully defeated very restrictive Dietitian Licensing bills (A.B. 440 and S.B. 115, S.B. 155, and S.B. 394, respectively) that would have been a direct infringement on free speech. Wisconsin leaders worked hard to educate legislators about the broad array of health care services that would be negatively impacted by the Dietitian licensing bill.