



National Health Freedom Action

SAFE HARBOR STATE ACTION UPDATE

2023-2024

nationalhealthfreedomaction.org

“Safe Harbor Practitioner Exemption” Bills-- Protecting Unlicensed Practitioners and Freedom in Health Care

NHFA tracks hundreds of state bills protecting unlicensed practitioners and the right to obtain health-care from those alternative and complementary practitioners. The list below is an update from January, 2023 to June, 2024.

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

NHFA is committed to the passage of Safe Harbor Exemption bills for protecting access to independent health care practitioners who 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 licensed or registered by the states and that do not rise to the level of concern requiring state oversight, certification, registration, or licensure.

Eleven 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), Colorado, and Nevada and Maine. Other states are preparing for the future.

- **Green** indicates that a Safe Harbor law has passed, in some form, in that state.
- **Blue** indicates that a state is actively working on a Safe Harbor bill
- **Light Blue** indicates that a state has worked on a bill in the past but is currently inactive
- **Red** indicates no one is currently working on a Safe Harbor bill

The following is a table of bills, primarily having to do with
OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE ISSUES,
which we have opposed or supported to protect health freedoms.

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SAFE HARBOR PRACTITIONER EXEMPTION BILLS

STATE	YEAR	STATUS	BILL NUMB	BILL LINK	ACTION AND OUTCO	DESCRIPTION
Alabama		NO SAFE HARBOR BILL				
Arizona		PASSED SAFE HARBOR LAW				
Arizona	2024		Arizona HB 2739	https://legiscan.com/AZ/text/HB2739/2024	Opposed. Sent to House Rules Committee. Legislative session over.	Bill to repeal the Homeopathic Board
Arizona	2008		Arizona SB1236	https://www.azleg.gov/legtext/48leg/2r/bills/sb1236s.pdf	SUPPORTED and PASSED	Authorizing natural remedies under exemption from homeopathic licensing
Arkansas		NO SAFE HARBOR BILL				
Alaska		NO SAFE HARBOR BILL				
California		PASSED SAFE HARBOR LAW				
California	2001		California SB577	http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/01-02/bill/sen/sb_0551-0600/sb_577_cfa_20020617_101926_asm_comm.html	SUPPORTED and PASSED	Safe Harbor Exemption Bill
Colorado		PASSED SAFE HARBOR LAW				
Colorado	2013		Colorado SB215	https://legiscan.com/CO/text/SB215/2013	SUPPORTED and PASSED but with negative amendment needing to be repealed; Signed	Natural Health Consumer Protection Act 6/5/2013
Connecticut		ACTIVE SAFE HARBOR STATE				
Connectic	2024		Connecticut HB5196	https://legiscan.com/CT/text/HB05196/2023	Supported Safe Harbor bill. Died in Committee.	Safe Harbor Exemption Bill
Connectic	2023		Connecticut. HB5196	https://legiscan.com/CT/bill/HB05196/2023	Drafted and Supported; Introduced, no Hearing.	Safe Harbor Exemption Bill
Delaware		NO SAFE HARBOR BILL				
Florida		HAS INTRODUCED INACTIVE				
Florida	2024				Meetings to continue to work on a Safe Harbor bill for Florida. Supported.	Safe Harbor Exemption Bill

Florida	2024		Florida HB 843	https://legiscan.com/FL/bill/H0843/2024	Restrictive licensing bill for naturopathic physicians. NHFA testified against bill and met with legislators. Opposed. Died in Committee.	Licensing Bill
Florida	2023				New Contacts in Ayurvedic, Homeopathic and Reiki community having regular meetings to organize and introduce Safe Harbor bill in 2024. Drafted Safe Harbor Practitioner Exemption Bill for Florida.	Safe Harbor Exemption Bill
Georgia		NO SAFE HARBOR BILL				
Hawaii		HAS INTRODUCED INACTIVE				
Idaho		PASSED SAFE HARBOR LAW				
Idaho	1976		Idaho State Statute 54-1804	https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/title54/t54ch18/sect54-1804/	SUPPORTED and PASSED	Most historic Safe Harbor Exemption bill
Illinois		NO SAFE HARBOR BILL				
Indiana		NO SAFE HARBOR BILL				
Iowa		HAS INTRODUCED INACTIVE				
Kansas		NO SAFE HARBOR BILL				
Kentucky		NO SAFE HARBOR BILL				
Louisiana		PASSED SAFE HARBOR LAW				
Louisiana	2005		Louisiana SB189	https://www.legis.la.gov/legis/ViewDocument.aspx?d=316944	SUPPORTED and PASSED	Safe Harbor Exemption Bill
Maine		PASSED SAFE HARBOR LAW				
Maine	2019		Maine LD364	https://legiscan.com/ME/text/LD364/2019	SUPPORTED and PASSED Signed into law June 11, 2019	Safe Harbor Exemption Bill

Maryland	HAS INTRODUCED INACTIVE					
Massachusetts	ACTIVE SAFE HARBOR STATE					
Massachusetts	2023-24		Massachusetts S1329	https://legiscan.com/MA/text/S1329/2023 https://legiscan.com/MA/text/H2244/2023	Support: NHFA delivered in-person testimony to Health Committee, awaiting committee vote	Safe Harbor Exemption Bill. Companion to H2244
Massachusetts	2023-24		Massachusetts H2244	https://legiscan.com/MA/text/H2244/2023	Support: NHFA delivered in-person testimony to Health Committee, awaiting committee vote	Safe Harbor Exemption Bill. Companion to S1329
Massachusetts	2023-24		Massachusetts S191 Replaced by S2630	https://legiscan.com/MA/text/S191/2023	Opposed. NHFA delivered remote testimony to Consumer Protection Committee. Discharged to Committee on Senate Rules. Session still in progress but bill likely dead for this session	Regulate Alternative Healing Therapies. Companion Bill to H282
Massachusetts	2023		Massachusetts H282 replaced by H4680	https://legiscan.com/MA/text/H282/2023	Opposed: NHFA delivered remote testimony to Consumer Protection Committee. Discharged to Committee on House Rules. Session still in progress. Bill likely dead for this session.	Regulate Alternative Healing Therapies. Companion Bill to S191
Massachusetts	2023		Massachusetts H350 replaced by H4680	https://legiscan.com/MA/bill/H350/2023	Opposed: NHFA delivered remote testimony to Consumer Protection Committee. Discharged to Committee on House Rules. Session still in progress. Bill likely dead for this session.	Regulates Bodywork
Michigan	HAS INTRODUCED INACTIVE					
Minnesota	PASSED SAFE HARBOR LAW					
Minnesota	2023-24		Minnesota SF967	https://legiscan.com/MN/text/SF967/2023	Opposed, Re-referred to Health. Then, Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee. Session ended.	Massage and Bodywork Therapy Act. Companion to HF973
Minnesota	2023-24		Minnesota HF973	https://legiscan.com/MN/text/HF973/2023	Opposed; Assign to Health on February 20. Then, In Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee. Session ended.	Massage and Bodywork Therapy Act. Companion to SF967

Minnesota	2000		Minnesota HF537	https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?number=HF537&version=0&session_year=1999&session_number=0	Supported and Passed	Safe Harbor Exemption Bill. Companion to SB689
Mississippi						NO SAFE HARBOR BILL
Missouri						NO SAFE HARBOR BILL
Montana						HAS INTRODUCED INACTIVE
Nebraska						NO SAFE HARBOR BILL
Nevada						PASSED SAFE HARBOR LAW
Nevada	2015		Nevada AB295	https://legiscan.com/NV/bill/AB295/2015	SUPPORTED and PASSED; Governor Signed on 6/9/2015	Wellness Services Bill (Safe Harbor Practitioner Exemption bill)
New Hampshire						NO SAFE HARBOR BILL
New Hampshire	2024				Group meets to discuss introducing a Safe Harbor bill. Supported	Safe Harbor Exemption Bill
New Hampshire	2023				Interest in safe harbor practitioner exemption bill. Supported.	Safe Harbor Exemption Bill
New Jersey						NO SAFE HARBOR BILL
New Mexico						PASSED SAFE HARBOR LAW
New Mexico	2009		New Mexico HB664	https://www.nmlegis.gov/Sessions/09%20Regular/bills/house/HB0664GUS.pdf	SUPPORTED AND PASSED	Safe Harbor Exemption Bill
New York						HAS INTRODUCED INACTIVE
New York	2023		New York SO1679	https://legiscan.com/NY/text/SO1679/2023	Introduced. Referred to "Higher Education." Bill died.	Regulating Practice of Naturopathic Medicine
North Carolina						HAS INTRODUCED INACTIVE

North Dakota	HAS INTRODUCED INACTIVE					
Ohio	HAS INTRODUCED INACTIVE					
Oklahoma	PASSED SAFE HARBOR LAW					
Oklahoma	2024		Oklahoma SB1725	https://legiscan.com/OK/text/SB1725/2024	Introduced. Referred to Health and Human Services. Supported. Will be reintroduced next session.	An Act granting certain protections to practitioners of indigenous and traditional healing therapies.
Oklahoma	2023				Support	Interest in Safe Harbor Bill Continuing
Oklahoma	1994		Oklahoma. 59 OK Stat §§ 481-518. Laws 1994, HB 2123, c. 323, § 1, emerg. eff. 7/1/1994.	https://law.justia.com/codes/oklahoma/2021/title-59/section-59-480/	SUPPORTED and PASSED	Exemptions for practices not allopathic and mentioning protection of homeopathic
Oregon	ACTIVE SAFE HARBOR BILL STATE					
Oregon	2024				The group is still meeting and working on Safe Harbor.	Safe Harbor Exemption Bill
Pennsylvania	NO SAFE HARBOR BILL					
Rhode Island	PASSED SAFE HARBOR LAW					
Rhode Island	2001		Rhode Island Statute 23-74	http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE23/23-74/INDEX.HTM	SUPPORTED AND PASSED	Safe Harbor Exemption bill
South Carolina	NO SAFE HARBOR BILL					
South Dakota	NO SAFE HARBOR BILL					
Tennessee	NO SAFE HARBOR BILL					
Texas	HAS INTRODUCED INACTIVE					
Texas	2024				Supported	Contacts interested in Safe Harbor, getting group together. Supported.

Utah	HAS INTRODUC ED INACTIVE
Vermont	NO SAFE HARBOR BILL
Virginia	HAS INTRODUC ED INACTIVE
Washington	HAS INTRODUC ED INACTIVE
West Virginia	NO SAFE HARBOR BILL
Wisconsin	HAS INTRODUC ED INACTIVE
Wyoming	NO SAFE HARBOR BILL