



# NATIONAL HEALTH FREEDOM ACTION

PMB 218, 2136 Ford Parkway  
St. Paul, MN 55116-1863  
Phone 507-663-9018, Fax 507-663-9013  
Email: [info@nationalhealthfreedom.org](mailto:info@nationalhealthfreedom.org)  
[www.nationalhealthfreedom.org](http://www.nationalhealthfreedom.org)

**Board of Directors**  
Bruce Curtis  
Larry Hanus  
President: Jerri Johnson  
Anthony Stephan  
Bonita Yoder JD

## National Health Freedom Action STATE ACTION UPDATE

### Occupational and Other Laws Impacting Health Freedom

July 7, 2016

---

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

- State Safe Harbor Exemption laws to protect access to unlicensed natural health care practitioners;
- Expanded Care Practice Acts for access to holistic doctors and other holistic licensed professionals;
- Bills calling for access to mercury free vaccines;
- Protection of philosophical exemptions for vaccine mandates;
- Protection of access to raw unpasteurized foods such as raw milk and dairy products and farm fresh products;
- Bills supporting the labeling of genetically modified foods;
- Bills that protect parent rights to decline vaccines and make medical choices including 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 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 regulated by the states and that do not rise to the level of concern requiring state oversight, certification, registration, or licensure. Ten 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*. 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, primarily having to do with OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE ISSUES, which 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 July 7, 2016

#### 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.*

| <b>State</b>       | <b>Year</b> | <b>Bill</b>  | <b>Action</b>   |
|--------------------|-------------|--|---|
| <b>Arizona</b>     | 2015        | S.B. 1398 Removing a law allowing parents who do not vaccinate their natural and adoptive children to be foster parents  | Opposed; did not pass   |
|                    | 2015        | H.B. 2462 Mandatory GMO-Labeling   | Supported; did not pass   |
|                    | 2013-2014   | H.B. 2029 Laetrile – Prohibition   | Opposed; died in committee  |
|                    | 2011-2012   | 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>    | 2015        | H.B. 1827 Creating Parents Bill of Rights  | Supported; Engrossed on March 16, 2015 but died in chamber  |
|                    | 2013        | H.B. 1011 Naturopathic Doctor Licensing  | Opposed; not passed before end of session   |
| <b>California</b>  | 2015        | S.B. 277 Referendum to allow CA residents to veto passage  | Supported; Did not meet number of physical signatures required to earn a spot on the November 2016 Ballot         |
|                    | 2015        | S.B. 277 Eliminate All non-medical Vaccine exemptions  | Opposed; Passed and Signed by Governor on June 30, 2015   |
|                    | 2015        | S.B. 792 Adding Vaccination requirements for daycare employees   | Opposed; Passed and Signed by Governor on Oct. 11, 2015   |
|                    | 2013 – 2014 | A.B. 1278 /S.B. 117 Integrative Cancer Treatment   | Neutral; Died January 31, 2014  |
|                    | 2013-2014   | S.B. 1381 GMO-Labeling   | Supported; Died in chamber  |
|                    | 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; Passed   |
|                    | 2001        | S.B. 577 Safe Harbor exemption for unlicensed practitioners  | SUPPORTED and PASSED  |
| <b>Colorado</b>    | 2016        | S.B. 1320 Removing current exemptions for bodywork and healing practitioners currently practicing legally under Colorado Massage exemption laws from massage law and CO's health freedom law for complementary and health care practitioners | Opposed re-revised version but supported amendments. Oppose final version; Signed by the Governor on June 8, 2016 |
|                    | 2015        | S.B. 77 Parents Bill of Rights   | Supported; (H) Postponed Indefinitely on Mar. 17, 2015  |
|                    | 2015        | H.B. 1075 Allow Registered Naturopaths to treat kids under 2 years of age  | Neutral; Governor signed Mar. 26, 2015  |
|                    | 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 Naturopath Licensure Act - Amend to add registration for non-4yr NP school grads   | Opposed; 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; 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 Licensing bill   | Opposed and Defeated  |
|                    | 2010        | H.B. 1371, "Colorado Health Freedom Act", a Safe Harbor Exemption bill   | Supported; Postponed Indefinitely in Committee April 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> | 2015        | H.B. 5915 Recognizing and allowing to practice nationally-certified classical homeopaths   | Neutral; Died in Committee  |

|                 |             |   |  |
|-----------------|-------------|---|--|
|                 | 2015        | H.B. 5448 Require health care providers to be vaccinated against influenza  | Opposed; Died in Committee   |
|                 | 2015        | H.B. 6949 Parents' statements seeking a religious exemption from a required immunization must be notarized  | Opposed; Passed and Signed by the governor on July 2, 2015   |
|                 | 2015        | H.B. 5726 and H.B. 6042 Eliminate trigger events for the effectiveness of statutes pertaining to GMO- labeling  | Supported; Died in Committee   |
|                 | 2014        | H.B. 5327 Practice of classical homeopathy and complementary and alternative health care  | Supported; Favorable report and Tabled for the Calendar April 10, 2014   |
|                 | 2013        | H.B. 6527 Mandatory GMO Labeling  | Supported; Passed and 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> | 2015        | H.B. 91 Adds to public school immunization program that the asserted cause of a medical exemption may be subject to review and approval by the Division of Public Health. | Opposed; Passed and Signed by Governor on July 15, 2015  |
|                 | 2008        | S.B. 317 Dietitian Licensing bill   | Supported health freedom amendments and Passed   |
| <b>Florida</b>  | 2015        | H.B. 351/S.B.416 GMO-Labeling   | Supported; (H) Died in Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee April 28, 2015; (S) Died in Agriculture on May 1, 2015                                     |
|                 | 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>   | 2016        | H.B. 2433 Safe Harbor Exemption Bill  | Supported; not passed before session ended   |
|                 | 2015 - 2016 | S.B. 1216 Adding colon hydrotherapy to exclusive scope of naturopaths   | Opposed; no movement since re-referred to (S) CPH on Jan. 21, 2016   |
|                 | 2015        | S.B.131, S.B. 1315, S.B. 1321 and S.B. 875 GMO-Labeling Bills   | Supported; S.B. 131 passed 2 <sup>nd</sup> reading in 2015 and all were carried over to 2016 session; No movement since re-referred to committee(s) in Jan. 2016 |
|                 | 2014        | S.B. 2439 /H.B. 2091 Herbal Therapy Licensure   | Opposed; Did not pass  |
|                 | 2014        | Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 31-14, Sunrise Review of Herbal Therapy Licensure  | Opposed; Auditor recommends Hawaii Not License Herbalists on Dec. 23, 2014   |
|                 | 2014        | S.B. 2750 Colon Hydrotherapy Licensure  | Opposed; did not pass  |
|                 | 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.Bs. 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>    | 2015        | S.B. 1777 Repeal Naturopathic Licensure law   | Neutral: Passed and Signed by Governor on April 10, Session Law Chapter 317 Effective: July 1, 2015  |
|                 | 2015        | S.B. 181 Adds to existing law to provide the Naturopathic Medical Physicians Licensing Act  | Opposed; Returned to the Senate failed on Mar. 31, 2015  |

|                  |             |  |  |
|------------------|-------------|--|--|
|                  | 2014        | H.B. 566 Naturopathic Licensure  | Opposed; Did not pass  |
|                  | 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>  | 2015        | S.B. 1601/H.B. 3508 Naturopathic Physician Licensure   | Opposed; (S) Postponed by Licensed Activities and Pensions Committee on March 26, 2015 and (H) Re-referred to Rules Committee via Rule 19(a) on March 27, 2015 |
|                  | 2015        | S.B. 1410 Restricts religious exemptions to vaccination by requiring objection form be signed by religious official attesting to bona fide religious objection and notarized | Opposed; Adopted, August 3, 2015   |
|                  | 2015        | S.B. 986 Childcare Employee Vaccine Act – no exemptions  | Opposed; Governor approved on August 4, 2015, Effective Jan. 2016  |
|                  | 2015        | S.B. 734 GMO-Labeling  | Supported; Did not meet (S) third reading deadline of May, 31, 2015  |
|                  | 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; not introduced  |
|                  | 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; Passed and Effective on 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>   | 2016        | S.B. 162 Mandatory Hospital Employee Immunization Requirements   | Opposed; Senate dissented from House amendments on 3/4/2016 and not passed before end of session   |
|                  | 2015        | S.B. 60 and S.B.264/ H.B.1460 GMO-Labeling bills   | Supported; not passed before end of session  |
|                  | 2014        | H.B.1293/S.B. 348 Massage Certification to Licensure   | Oppose; not passed before end of session   |
|                  | 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>      | 2015        | S.S.B. 1067/H.S.B. 51 Naturopathic Licensure – Study Bill  | Opposed; not passed before end of session  |
|                  | 2014        | H.S.B. 528/S.S.B. 3013 Dietitian Licensure – Study Bill  | Opposed; not passed before end of session  |
|                  | 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>    | 2015 - 2016 | S.B. 40/H.B. 2123 Massage Licensure  | Neutral; Died in (S) and (H) Committees on June 1, 2016  |
|                  | 2014        | H.B. 2187 Massage Licensure  | Neutral; not passed before end of session  |
|                  | 2014        | S.B. 67 Adding Philosophical Exemption to Immunization Requirements  | Supported; Failed  |
|                  | 2001        | S.B. 276 Naturopathic Doctor Licensing bill  | Opposed; Passed<br>Health Freedom amendments rejected  |
| <b>Louisiana</b> | 2015        | H.B. 342 Adding Vaccine for Meningococcal disease to schedule for school kids and day cares  | Opposed; Adopted July 1, 2015  |
|                  | 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>     | 2015        | H.P. 419 (LD 606), Remove Philosophical Exemption from the Immunization  | Opposed; Died in Senate on May 29, 2015  |

|                      |             |  |   |
|----------------------|-------------|--|---|
|                      |             | Requirements for Students, Employees of Nursery Schools and Health Care Facilities   |   |
|                      | 2015        | H.P. 310 (LD 471) Requires a parent seeking a philosophical exemption to be educated by a health care practitioner and to provide documentation signed by a health care practitioner | Opposed; (H) concurred in Governor veto on June 30, 2015  |
|                      | 2015        | S.P. 478 (LD 1326)/H.P. 686 (LD 991) GMO-Labeling of food and seed and removing triggering clause  | Supported; (S) Carried over into any special or regular session of the 127 <sup>th</sup> legislature on June 30, 2015 and in (H) on July 21, 2015 |
|                      | 2013        | HP 490 Mandatory GMO Labeling – with triggering clause   | Supported; Passed to be enacted on June 12, 2013  |
|                      | 2013        | HP 505 Vaccine Ingredient Transparency   | Supported; Did not pass   |
| <b>Maryland</b>      | 2016        | S.B. 868/H.B. 1178 Mandatory HPV Vaccine requirement for all teens   | Opposed; Unfavorable report by both (S) and (H) Committees and withdrawn  |
|                      | 2015        | H.B. 687 Repeal Religious Exemptions from Immunization Requirements  | Opposed; Unfavorable report by (H) Health and Government Operations Committee and withdrawn on March 17, 2015                                     |
|                      | 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> | 2015 - 2016 | S.B. 1136/ H.B. 2033 Safe Harbor Exemption Health Freedom bills  | Supported; Accompanied a study order and in Senate Rules Committee as of June 2016  |
|                      | 2015 - 2016 | S.B. 2335 (formerly S.B. 1205/H.B. 1992) Creating Naturopathy Registration Board   | Opposed; Passed senate and in House Ways and Means Committee as of June 15, 2016  |
|                      | 2015 - 2016 | S.B. 317 Adding Personal Belief Exemption to Immunization laws   | Supported; Accompanied a study order, S.B. 2345, on June 16, 2016   |
|                      | 2015 - 2016 | H.B. 3242 GMO-labeling, food and seed  | Supported; substituted by H.B. 3242, reported favorably from committee and in House Ways and Means  |
|                      | 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; not passed before end of session   |
|                      | 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 Safe Harbor Exemption health freedom bill  | Supported; not passed before end of session   |
| <b>Michigan</b>      | 2015 – 2016 | H.B. 4531 Naturopathic Physician Licensure   | Oppose; Substituted and reported from Health Policy and referred to 2 <sup>nd</sup> reading on May 3, 2016  |
|                      | 2013-2014   | H.B. 4688/S.B. 579 Deregulate Dietetics/ Nutrition   | Supported; H.B. 4688 Passed and Approved by the Governor on July 1, 2014  |
|                      | 2013 – 2014 | 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. 5594, Licensure of Naturopathic Physicians  | Opposed; not passed before end of session   |
|                      | 2011 - 2012 | 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>   | 2015 - 2016 | S.F. 1310/H.F. 644 Massage and Bodywork Therapy Act   | Opposed; Did not pass before session ended  |
|                    | 2015        | S.F. 335/H.F. 351 GMO-Labeling  | Supported; Did not pass before session ended  |
|                    | 2015 – 2016 | S.F. 380 /H.F.393 Eliminates the conscientious belief exemption and replaces it with a restricted personal belief exemption | Opposed; Did not pass before session ended  |
|                    | 2015        | S.F. 1870/ H.F. 1978 Health care providers vaccination reporting and disclosure requirements                                | Supported; Did not pass before session ended  |
|                    | 2014        | H.F. 3140 Mandatory GMO-Labeling  | Supported; informational hearing only   |
|                    | 2014        | S.F. 1792/H.F. 1925 Massage and Bodywork Registration   | Opposed; not passed before end of session   |
|                    | 2014        | S.F. 1642/H.F. 1817 Expanded Practice Act for Licensed Practitioner providing Complementary and Alternative Health Care     | Opposed but supported after health freedom amendments added; Approved by Governor on May 21, 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        | H.F. 255 Raw Milk delivery  | Supported; informational hearing in House but not passed before end of session                                    |
|                    | 2010        | H.F. 1503 Massage Licensure   | Opposed and Defeated  |
|                    | 2009        | Assessment of Naturopathic Regulation Task Force  | Participated as member of task force and crafted clarifying amendments  |
|                    | 2008        | H.F. 1724 Naturopathic Medicine Registration  | Opposed: supported health freedom amendments exempting traditional naturopaths; Passed                            |
|                    | 2000        | H.F. 537/S.B. 689 Complementary and Alternative Health Care bill  | SUPPORTED and PASSED  |
| <b>Mississippi</b> | 2015        | H.B. 725 Naturopathic Licensure   | Neutral; Died in Committee on Feb. 3, 2015  |
|                    | 2015        | H.B. 130/S.B. 2800 Allowing exemptions from vaccinations for conscientious beliefs  | Supported; (H) Died on calendar in Feb. 2015 and (S) Died in Committee on Feb. 3, 2015                            |
|                    | 2014        | H.B. 1420/S.B. 2789 Allow philosophical Exemption to Vaccination  | Supported; Died February 2014   |
| <b>Missouri</b>    | 2016        | S.B. 1005 Requiring Meningococcal vaccines for higher education students  | Opposed; No movement since Second Reading and Referral to Veterans' Affairs and Health Committee on Feb. 18, 2016 |
|                    | 2016        | S.B. 819 Requiring employees and volunteers of specified public and private institutions to receive annual Flu vaccination  | Opposed; No movement since Second Reading and Referral to Veterans' Affairs and Health Committee on Jan. 12, 2016 |
|                    | 2015        | S.B. 329 Requiring employees and volunteers of specified public and private institutions to receive annual Flu vaccination  | Opposed; (S) Died in Veterans' Affairs and Health Committee   |
|                    | 2015        | H.B. 168 GMO-Labeling   | Supported; no movement since (H) referred to Emerging issues on May 15, 2015                                      |
|                    | 2014        | H.B. 1891 Deregulation of 8 professions and allows practice without license   | Supported; not passed before end of session   |
|                    | 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>      | 2015        | A.B. 295 Wellness Services Bill   | Supported; Passed and Governor Signed on June 9, 2015   |
|                    | 2015        | S.B. 408 Naturopathic Licensing   | Neutral; died on April 11, 2015   |
|                    | 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 then Supported once adopted Safe Harbor health freedom amendment; PASSED                                  |
|                    | 2011        | S.B. 412 Complementary Integrative Medicine   | Opposed and Defeated  |

|                      |             |   |  |
|----------------------|-------------|---|--|
|                      |             | (CIM) Licensing bill  |  |
|                      | 2009        | S.B. 69 Regulating all unlicensed practitioners under Integrative Medical Board             | Opposed and did not move   |
|                      | 2009        | S.B. 269 Safe Harbor Exemption health freedom bill  | Supported; put aside until next session  |
| <b>New Hampshire</b> | 2016        | H.B. 1463 Prohibit Employer Vaccine Mandates for Employees                                  | Supported; Reported from Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services Committee to refer to Interim Study on March 9, 2016  |
|                      | 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>    | 2016        | S.B. 1318/A.B. 1820 Dietitian Licensing   | Opposed  |
|                      | 2016        | A.B. 2727 Adding Conscientious Belief Exemption to Mandatory Immunization Requirements      | Supported; No movement since introduced and referred to Health and Human Services Committee on Feb. 8, 2016  |
|                      | 2016        | A.B. 2647 Requiring HPV Vaccinations for 6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade students   | Opposed; No movement since introduced and referred to Health and Human Services Committee on Feb. 8, 2016  |
|                      | 2015        | S.B. 1147/A.B. 1931 Restricting religious exemptions to vaccinations                        | Oppose; no movement since reported from (S) & (H) Committees and second Reading in March 2015  |
|                      | 2014        | A.B. 2826/S.B. 855/S.B. 1661 Dietitian and Nutritionist Licensing                           | Oppose; not passed before end of session   |
|                      | 2014        | S.B. 1190 Naturopathic Doctor Licensing   | Opposed; not passed before end of session  |
|                      | 2014        | S.B. 1068 Amend Massage and Bodywork Licensing Act  | TBD; not passed before end of session  |
|                      | 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; not passed before end of session  |
|                      | 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  |
|                      | 2010-1011   | 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>    | 2015        | H.B. 522 Severely restricts religious exemptions to vaccination                             | Opposed; (H) Died in Committee in February 2015  |
|                      | 2009        | H.B. 664 Safe Harbor Exemption health freedom bill  | SUPPORTED AND PASSED   |
| <b>New York</b>      | 2016        | A.B. 8329/S.B. 6017, Eliminating religious belief exemptions to vaccination requirements.   | Opposed;(A) and (S) no movement since referred to Health Committee(s) in Jan. 2016   |
|                      | 2016        | S.B. 4917/A.B. 10128 Regulating Practice of Naturopathic Medicine                           | Opposed; (A) referred to Higher Education Committee on May 12, 2016 and (S) amended and recommitted to Higher Education Committee(s) on June 1, 2016                                     |
|                      | 2016        | A.B. 7035 Regulating Practice of Naturopathic Medicine                                      | Opposed; no movement since referred to Health Committee in Jan. 2016   |
|                      | 2015 - 2016 | S.B. 362/A.B. 1257 Dietitian and Nutritionist Licensure                                     | Opposed; (A) and (S) no movement since amended and recommitted to Higher Education Committee(s) in Feb. 2016   |
|                      | 2015 - 2016 | A.B. 2108 Incorporate all Complementary and Alternative Medicine into Practice of Dietetics | Opposed; no action since referred to Higher Education Committee in January 2016  |
|                      | 2015        | S.B. 4917/A.B. 7035 Regulating Practice of Naturopathic Medicine                            | Neutral; no action since referred to committee in April 2015   |
|                      | 2015 - 2016 | A.B. 2286 Reflexology Licensing   | Opposed; no action since referred to committee in January 2015   |
|                      | 2015        | S.B. 485/ AB617 and S.B. 617/AB4233 GMO – Labeling Bills                                    | Supported; S.B. 617 amended May 26, 2015; S.B. 485 amended and recommitted to Consumer Protection May 28, 2015; Assembly bills are in Assembly Consumer Affairs and Protection Committee |
|                      | 2015        | S.B. 1536/A.B. 943 Adding a philosophical exemption to vaccination requirements             | Supported; Died Feb. 9, 2015   |
|                      | 2015        | S.B. 6017/A.B. 8329 Repealing Religious Belief Exemptions to Immunizations                  | Opposed; (A) Introduced on August 05, 2015 and (S) introduced by Sen. Hoylman on July  |

|                       |             |  |  |
|-----------------------|-------------|--|--|
|                       |             |  | 15, 2015   |
|                       | 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. 3057 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> | 2015        | S.B. 346 Repealing the religious exemption for required immunizations  | Opposed; not passed before end of session  |
|                       | 2015        | S.B. 118 Naturopathic Doctors Licensing Act  | Opposed; not passed before end of session  |
|                       | 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 GMO-foods and milk or milk products from animals that have received 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>           | 2015 - 2016 | H.B. 170 Protecting Workers Right to Refuse Flu Shots  | Supported; no movement since referred to Commerce and Labor Committee in May 2015                        |
|                       | 2015 - 2016 | S.B. 194 Ohio Consumer Health Freedom Bill   | Support; no movement since assigned to Health and Human Services Committee in Sept. 2015                 |
|                       | 2015        | S.B. 121 Requiring Meningitis vaccine and Dept. of Health Rulemaking to specify age  | Opposed; Passed (H) on June 25 and signed by Governor on July 16, 2015                                   |
|                       | 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 by Committee on Health and Aging 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  |
| <b>Oklahoma</b>       | 2015        | S.B. 279 Repealing Safe Harbor Exemption language  | Oppose; Died in committee  |
|                       | 2015 - 2016 | S.B. 615 Expanding Dietitian Scope of Practice   | Oppose; (S) Engrossed but died in (H) committee  |
|                       | 2015        | S.B. 687 Massage Therapy Licensing   | Oppose; Died in committee  |
|                       | 2015        | S.B.830 Eliminating all non-medical exemptions to vaccinations   | Oppose; no movement since second reading and referred to Health on March 3, 2015                         |
|                       | 2015        | H.B. 1370 GMO-Labeling   | Support; No movement since second reading and referred to Rules in Feb. 2015                             |
|                       | 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; Did not pass                                 |
|                       | 2012        | H.B. 2630 Repealing Safe Harbor Exemption language   | Opposed; Did not move before session ended   |



|                     |             |   |  |
|---------------------|-------------|---|--|
|                     | 1994        | Exemptions for practices not allopathic and mentioning protection of homeopathic  | Passed   |
| <b>Oregon</b>       | 2015        | S.B. 298 Requires regulation of bodywork in same manner that law currently regulates massage  | Opposed; Passed and government signed on June 18, 2015   |
|                     | 2015        | S.B. 442 Requiring additional signature requirements for exercising a personal belief exemption   | Opposed; (S) in Committee upon adjournment   |
|                     | 2015        | S.B. 731 Prohibit Employers from mandating vaccinations as a condition of employee  | Supported; (S) in Committee upon adjournment   |
|                     | 2015        | H.B. 3121 Referring the GMO-Labeling Act to the people for approval or rejection at next regular general election   | Supported; (S) in committee upon adjournment   |
|                     | 2013        | H.B. 2996 Acupuncture – restrict supplement and dietary advice  | Opposed; not passed before end of session  |
| <b>Pennsylvania</b> | 2015        | S.B. 621/H.B. 516 Naturopathic Doctor Licensure   | Neutral; Passed House and Engrossed on April 22, 2015, in (S) Consumer Protection & Professional Licensure on May 1, 2015                                  |
|                     | 2015        | H.B. 883 Eliminating philosophical belief exemptions from vaccination requirements and restricting religious belief exemptions  | Oppose; No action since referred to the House Committee on Health on 4/6/2015  |
|                     | 2013-2014   | H.B. 612 Naturopathic Doctor Licensure  | Neutral; Not passed before end of session  |
|                     | 2011-2012   | 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> | 2016        | S.B. 2292 Reinstates the philosophical exemption to vaccinations and restricts the department of health’s authority to impose and/or change the current mandated vaccinations | Supported; Health and Human Services Committee recommended be held for further study on March 31, 2016   |
|                     | 2015        | S.B. 94 / H.B. 5380 Naturopathic Physician Licensing  | Opposed; Committee recommended be held for further study in March 2015   |
|                     | 2015        | S.B. 331/ H.B. 5501 Naturopathic Physician Licensing  | Opposed; Committee recommended be held for further study in March 2015   |
|                     | 2015        | S.B.381 Eliminate religious exemptions to vaccination requirements  | Opposed; Health Committee recommended be held for further study in March 2015  |
|                     | 2015        | S.B. 93/H.B. 5502 GMO-Labeling  | Supported; (S) and (H) Committee(s) recommend be held for further study April 9 and March 15, 2015, respectively   |
|                     | 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  | SUPPORTED AND PASSED   |
| <b>South Dakota</b> |             | S.B. 28 Requiring meningococcal immunization for school entry   | Opposed; Passed and Signed by Governor Feb. 29, 2016   |
|                     | 2012        | H.B. 1170 Emerging Complementary and Alternative Health Care Professions Licensure Board bill   | Opposed and Tabled   |
| <b>Tennessee</b>    | 2015 – 2016 | S.B. 696/H.B. 1218 GMO-Labeling   | Supported; (H) Failed in Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee on March 15, 2016; (S) Assigned to Commerce & Labor Subcommittee on March 15, 2016 |
|                     | 2012-2013   | H.B. 3678 Requiring GMO-Labeling  | Supported; not passed before end of session  |
| <b>Texas</b>        | 2015        | H.B. 2006, Repealing conscientious and religious exemptions to vaccinations   | Oppose; not passed before end of session   |
|                     | 2015        | H.B. 1674, Restricting Religious Belief Exemptions  | Oppose; not passed before end of session   |
|                     | 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 first hearing   |
|                     | 2007        | S.B. 1209 Dietitian Licensing   | Opposed and Defeated   |
| <b>Utah</b>         | 2016        | HB 221 Requiring online education module to exercise medical, religious and personal belief exemptions to vaccination for public and private school and daycare students      | Opposed; Placed in House file for “bills not passed” on March 10, 2016   |

|                      |             |  |   |
|----------------------|-------------|--|---|
|                      | 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>       | 2015-2016   | S.B. 127 Study regarding Massage Therapy Licensure   | Opposed; in Government Operations Committee since March 2015  |
|                      | 2015-2016   | H.B. 461 Massage Therapy Registration  | Opposed; in Government Operations Committee since March 2015  |
|                      | 2015        | H.B. 98 Eliminating philosophical belief exemptions to vaccination   | Opposed; Signed by Governor on May 28, 2015   |
|                      | 2015        | H.B. 266 Requiring all school students, teachers, administrators, and staff to be fully vaccinated unless he or she qualifies for a medical exemption                    | Opposed; not passed before end of session   |
|                      | 2015        | S.B.87 Eliminating religious belief exemptions to vaccination and H.B.212 eliminates both religious and philosophical belief exemptions to vaccination                   | Opposed; not passed before end of session   |
|                      | 2014        | H.B. 644 Massage Licensure   | Opposed; not passed before end of session   |
|                      | 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>      | 2016        | H.B. 562 Massage Therapists Licensure  | Opposed then, after successful negotiations for health freedom amendments, became neutral; Signed by Governor on March 10, 2016 |
|                      | 2016        | H.B. 1342 Eliminating religious belief exemptions to vaccination   | Opposed; Withdrawn by sponsor and assigned to study   |
|                      | 2015        | H.B. 1591 GMO-Labeling   | Supported; Left in Agriculture Committee on Feb.8, 2015   |
|                      | 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>    | 2015        | H.B. 1252 Penalties for Unlicensed Massage or Reflexology  | Opposed; Adopted April 17, 2015   |
|                      | 2015 - 2016 | H.B. 2009 Eliminate personal belief exemptions to vaccination requirements   | Opposed; (H) Reintroduced and retained in present status on March 10, 2016  |
|                      | 2013        | I – 522 GMO Labeling Ballot Initiative   | Supported and Failed in November 2013 Election  |
|                      | 2012        | H.B. 2637 / S.B. 6298 Requires GMO-labeling  | 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 hydrotherapist  | 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> | 2016        | S.B. 276 Requiring all health care workers receive flu vaccination annually  | Opposed; No movement since introduced and assigned to Health and Human Resources Committee in Jan. 2016                         |
|                      | 2015        | S.B. 286/H.B. 2556 Providing religious exemptions from mandatory immunizations for school children; requiring parents and guardians to assert their beliefs in affidavit | Supported then, once religious exemption removed, Opposed; Passed and Chaptered on April 15, 2015                               |
|                      | 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>     | 2016        | A.B. 924 Removing personal belief exemptions from Wisconsin's immunization laws  | Opposed; Failed to pass pursuant to Senate joint resolution 1   |

|                |             |   |  |
|----------------|-------------|---|--|
|                | 2015-2016   | S.B. 198/A.B.370 Wisconsin Consumer Choice and Wellness Legislation           | Supported; Assigned to Health Committee(s) in August 2015 but not heard and not passed before end of session |
|                | 2015-2016   | S.B. 218 Prohibiting Employer Mandatory Flu Vaccine Requirement for Employees | Supported; Failed to pass pursuant to Senate joint resolution 1  |
|                | 2013 - 2014 | S.B. 280 Wisconsin Consumer Choice and Wellness Legislation                   | Supported; Redrafted and not introduced  |
|                | 2011-2012   | S.B. 280 Wisconsin Consumer Choice and Wellness Legislation                   | Supported; not passed before end of session  |
|                | 2011 - 2012 | LRB 0253/1 Dietitian Licensing  | Opposed and Defeated   |
|                | 2009 - 2010 | A.B. 440/ S.B. 115 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   |
| <b>Wyoming</b> | 2015        | S.F. 86/H.D. 62 Massage Therapist Licensing                                   | Opposed; Died in Committee in March 2015   |

**Arizona:** Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2015 NHFA Update. NHFA is not in active contact with health freedom leaders in Arizona since their homeopathy law passed; please email NHFA for more information on Arizona or for help starting a health freedom group for Arizona residents.

**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:** Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2015 NHFA Update. To connect with the Arkansas Health Freedom Coalition, email [arhfc@lycos.com](mailto:arhfc@lycos.com).

**California:** In 2016, NHFA worked to support health freedom rights for CA residents in the aftermath of the passage of S.B. 277 (which stripped CA parents of their right to decline vaccines based on religious or philosophical reasons, leaving only medical exemptions) that is to go into effect in July 2016.

Although the referendum to put S.B. 277 on the ballot for 2016 was, unfortunately, not successful, NHFA was encouraged by the grassroots leaders in California who organized in numerous ways to push back against the draconian vaccine mandate bill. For example, CA hosted two CaliSummits for CA residents to gather and strategize on how to regain their rights to decline vaccines based on their personal beliefs. Each CaliSummit featured Open Space Communication, facilitated by Denise Lewis Premschak. NHFA attended and Diane Miller moderated the first summit held in Sacramento in January 2016; the second summit was held in Riverside, CA on March 10-12<sup>th</sup>. NHFA applauds those who came together to collaborate and remains in communication with many California leaders who are equally dedicated to preventing and/or overturning the implementation of S.B. 277! In addition, NHFA is in touch with attorneys working on a case to challenge the constitutionality of SB277, and the case will be heard in federal Court, San Diego District, in August 2016, requesting an injunction.

California still does not have a GMO-Labeling law to celebrate in 2016 despite leading the charge on this issue at the legislature many years ago and numerous nearly successful attempts in recent years. .

Connect with the California Health Freedom Coalition at [www.californiahealthfreedom.com](http://www.californiahealthfreedom.com) or the California Citizens for Health Freedom at [www.citizenshealth.org](http://www.citizenshealth.org).

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

**2005 Safe Harbor Exemption** from naturopathic doctor registration requirements.

**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.

**Connecticut: Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2015 NHFA Update.** NHFA is not aware of a currently active health freedom group in Connecticut at this time; please email NHFA for more information on Connecticut or for help starting a health freedom group for Connecticut residents.

**Colorado:** In 2016 Colorado Massage bill HB16-1320 was introduced to remove current legal exemptions to massage occupational licensing requirements for bodywork and healing practitioners currently practicing legally under Colorado Massage exemption laws and under Colorado's health freedom law for complementary and health care practitioners. The revised version of Colorado HB 16-1320 (Amended on 3rd reading on May 2, 2016) was opposed by many bodyworkers and complementary and alternative healers practicing under the massage exemptions and under the health freedom safe harbor law in Colorado.

The good news is that their work was successful in that the version of the bill ultimately signed by the Governor is much less offensive than the original, introduced version because it was amended to maintain protections for the unlicensed practices including massage licensing exemptions for practices using reflexology, auricular therapy, and meridian therapies that affect the reflexes of the body; practices using touch, words, and directed movements to deepen a person's awareness of movement patterns in his or her body, such as the Feldenkrais method, the Trager approach, and body-mind centering; practices using touch or healing touch to affect the human energy systems, such as reiki, shiatsu; and meridians; structural integration practices such as Rolfing and Hellerwork; and the process of muscle activation techniques.

The bad news is that the exemptions will only be listed under the Massage Law statute; they will not be listed as exemptions in the Colorado Natural Health Consumer Protection Act (SB13-215, passed in 2013) for complementary and alternative health care practitioners. This arguably creates a conflict of laws and much confusion. The Consumer Protection law is enforced by the Colorado Consumer Protection Act for deceptive trade practices and that law would be saying that practitioners cannot practice massage and has no exemption, but the Massage law is enforced by the Massage Board and would be saying that the unlicensed bodyworkers do not need a license to practice massage.

Colorado practitioners want the law to be clear and unchanged and continue to oppose this new law. The bill had exemptions in both the Massage law and the Consumer Protection law until at the very last minute on the floor a special amendment was added on 3rd and final reading in the Senate and was an unusually hostile move deleting the exemptions from the safe harbor Consumer Protection Act; the exemptions should be reinstated.

In 2013, when Colorado became the ninth Safe Harbor state, the bill passed with an amendment that was not supported by the health freedom community; it stated that unlicensed natural health practitioners would not treat children less than two years old and established restrictions on treating children less than eight years old.

But in 2015, Colorado passed a bill to restore the ability of Naturopathic Doctors to provide treatments to persons under 2 years of age. 2015's H.B. 1075 removed a provision in the 2013 Naturopathic Doctors Licensing Bill, HB13-1111, that prevented Naturopaths from treating anyone under 2 years of age. The Governor signed H.B. 1075 on March 26, 2015. However, this prohibition is still in place for practitioners practicing under CO's Safe Harbor Exemption law, also passed in 2013.

Connect with the Colorado Sunshine Health Freedom Foundation, at [jkpinkham@msn.com](mailto:jkpinkham@msn.com) or with the Colorado Springs Citizens for health Freedom at [advancedtherapy@hotmail.com](mailto:advancedtherapy@hotmail.com).

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

**2013 Colorado Safe Harbor Exemption Law:** Colorado's health freedom law protects consumer access to practitioners who 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 licensing requirements for health care professions included in Title 12 C.R.S. 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. The Colorado Natural Health Consumer Protection Act, Colorado Senate Bill 13-215, was signed into law by Colorado Governor Hickenlooper on June 5, 2013.

**Delaware: Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2011 NHFA Update.** NHFA is not aware of a health freedom group in Delaware at this time; please email NHFA for more information on Delaware or for help starting a health freedom group for Delaware residents.

**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:** Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2015 NHFA Update. 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 Exemption legislation but they have not yet passed their bill. NHFA looks forward to helping them strategize in future sessions. Connect with Florida Health Freedom Coalition/Action at [dentalegal@aol.com](mailto:dentallegal@aol.com).

**Note Florida - Governor Signed Health Freedom Proclamation:**

**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:** In 2016 Hawaii introduced H.B. 2433, a bill protecting access to traditional, complementary and alternative health care practitioners in Hawaii! If passed, Hawaii would've joined ten other states in protecting the thousands of wonderful complementary and alternative practitioners in Hawaii offering sought-after natural health options for consumers but, unfortunately, H.B. 2433 was never scheduled for a hearing. Please thank Rep. Hashem, the sponsor of H.B. 2433, for introducing the bill and ask your own legislators to help move H.B. 2433 next session.

In 2016, Hawaii again introduced numerous bills to label GMO-containing foods but none of them passed before session ended.

NHFA is not aware of a health freedom group in Hawaii at this time; please email NHFA for more information on Hawaii or for help starting a health freedom group for Hawaii residents.

**Idaho:** Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2015 NHFA Update. NHFA is not aware of a health freedom group in Idaho at this time; please email NHFA for more information on Idaho or for help starting a health freedom group for Idaho residents.

**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:** Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2015 NHFA Update. Connect with Illinois Citizens for Health Freedom, at [Illinois Citizens for Health Freedom](http://IllinoisCitizensforHealthFreedom.org), or the Illinois Sunshine Health Freedom Coalition, at [getwell@rosiechristy.com](mailto:getwell@rosiechristy.com). Both groups are eager to grow their memberships to support them in their effort to get a health freedom bill introduced.

**Indiana:** Indiana SB 162, a bill mandating certain vaccinations for hospital employees, failed to move out of conference committee after the Senate dissented from the House amendments on March 4, 2016. Indiana came too close to infringing on



the right of employees to decline high risk vaccines and putting the hospital in charge of determining whether an employee can have an exemption and whether the employee is abiding by religious tenants worthy of a vaccine exemption!

Please email NHFA for more information on Indiana or for help starting a health freedom group for Indiana residents. Indiana is a strong natural health state including the presence of Healthkeepers Alliance, the sponsor of the Health Freedom Expos, and of Trinity College. Connect with the Healthkeepers Alliance at [www.healthkeepersalliance.org](http://www.healthkeepersalliance.org).

**Iowa: Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2015 NHFA Update.** NHFA is in touch with several leaders in IA who are interested in working to pass a Safe Harbor law for IA; please email NHFA for more information on Iowa or for help starting a health freedom group for Iowa residents. Iowa Health Freedom Coalition has historically been the face of health freedom at the Iowa capitol and worked to introduce a Safe Harbor Exemption 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.

**Kansas:** Kansas introduced bills to License Massage Therapists, S.B. 40/H.B. 2123, but they both died in committee on June 1, 2016. The Senate version was heard on February 3, 2015 in the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee and the House version was heard in Health and Human Services on February 11, 2015. NHFA opposed these bills because the exemptions in the bill for unlicensed practitioners were not sufficient to protect their ongoing practices without fear of being shut down for unlicensed practice of massage.

Contacts working for health freedom in Kansas are seeking a team to work for their own health freedom legislation. Two Board members from NHFA and one Board member from NHFC 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 is eager to gain supporters for the movement. Connect with Kansans by emailing Betty Russell at [betty@nspcentral.com](mailto:betty@nspcentral.com).

**Kentucky: Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2011 NHFA Update.** Sunshine Health Freedom Foundation has a coordinator in Kentucky named JD Riggs. NHFA has been in contact with Mr. Riggs regarding possible health freedom bill language and Riggs is communicating with his Representative and is organizing to start on a Health Freedom Bill for Kentucky. Connect with Mr. Riggs at [jdjorrigs@yahoo.com](mailto:jdjorrigs@yahoo.com).

**Louisiana: Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2014 NHFA Update.** Connect with Louisiana Health Freedom Coalition at [lyell@natureswellness.net](mailto:lyell@natureswellness.net) or at [www.LHFC.info](http://www.LHFC.info).

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

**2006 Louisiana Safe Harbor Law:** Louisiana is one of the ten 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: Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2015 NHFA Update.** To connect with Maine, contact Pamela Gerry at [novaccines@gmail.com](mailto:novaccines@gmail.com). 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:** In 2016, Maryland introduced a bill to add a mandate for the HPV vaccine for all teens to the state's school immunization requirements. Fortunately, the bill was withdrawn after receiving an unfavorable report by both the House and Senate Committees to which it was assigned.

Maryland health freedom group has lost two main leaders due to family moves and they need new leaders now; NHFA was sad to report in 2014 that the restrictive H.B. 402/S.B. 314 Naturopathic Medicine Licensing bills passed in MD - 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. Please email NHFA for more information on Maryland or for help starting a health freedom group for Maryland residents. In 2010, Maryland got their health freedom bill, H.B. 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 2011-2016.

**Massachusetts:** MA's Safe Harbor Exemption bill in the Senate, S.B. 1136, was replaced by S.B. 2199, a Public Health Issues study order bill. S.B. 2199 was reported from the Senate Committee on Public Health and was referred to the Committee on Rules of each of the two branches in March 2016. Also in March, the reporting date for H.B. 2033 was extended to Thursday June 30, 2016. The 2016 MA legislative session is still ongoing.

Also in 2016, Massachusetts is moving a bill to create a Naturopathy Registration Board, S.B. 2335 (formerly S.B. 1205/H.B. 1992). NHFA opposed these bills because they sought to restrict the use of the title "naturopath" and to define naturopathic health care. S.B. 2335 passed the senate and was engrossed on June 13, 2016 and it is now in the House Ways and Means Committee.

Massachusetts again sought to expand its vaccine exemption rights in 2016 with S.B. 317, a bill to add Personal Belief Exemptions to Immunization laws. S.B. 317 was attached to a Health Education Matters study bill, S.B. 2345, on June 16, 2016, NHFA was especially glad to support this bill given the restrictive trend of exemption bills across the nation this session. NHFA also supported MA H.B. 3242, requiring GMO-labeling for food and seed. In 2016, H.B. 3242 was substituted with a new draft and is now labeled H.B. 3242, which was reported favorably by the Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture Committee and referred to the House Ways and Means Committee on April 4, 2016.

To connect with Health Freedom Action Massachusetts, please visit [www.hfama.org](http://www.hfama.org) and/or email Hilary, at [hgarialtis@me.com](mailto:hgarialtis@me.com). [Massachusetts Health Freedom Action](http://www.massachusettshealthfreedomaction.org) was reinvigorated in 2014 with the addition of Hilary Garvis to its leadership team; they successfully introduced their health freedom legislation, S.B. 1136/ H.B. 2033, and the bills were heard in the Joint Committee on public Health on November 17, 2015. S.B. 1136/ H.B. 2033 would protect access to the traditional, natural health care practitioners in MA. Congratulations to HFAMA! NHFA looks forward to continuing to work with HFAMA in 2016-2017 to move their bill forward.

**Michigan:** In 2016, NHFA is opposing MI HB 4531, a Naturopathic Licensing bill. H.B. 4531 was substituted and reported from the Health Policy Committee and referred to a second reading on May 3, 2016. NHFA provided health freedom amendments to grassroots leaders in MI and is supportive of their efforts to get the amendments attached to the bill if it appears the bill will continue to move in 2016. NHFA opposes H.B. 4531 because, although it keeps terms like naturopath, naturopathic practitioner, naturopathy, etc., in the public domain and it doesn't restrict the provision of unlicensed services, the exemptions for unlicensed practitioners is vague.

There has not been any progress on the "Michigan Consumer Health Freedom Law" in 2015-2016 which was introduced by Representative Joel Johnson in the 2013-2014 session (see H.B. 4738). The bill is no longer alive and needs to be reintroduced. Michigan has a very restrictive Dietitian Licensing law (see 2006-2007 S.B.403) that passed without adequate exemptions for unlicensed nutrition providers. Michigan is the home of Reiki International ([www.reiki.org](http://www.reiki.org)) and its founder and Director, William Lee Rand, Reiki Master.

To connect with Michigan leaders, please contact NHFA. Michigan Natural Health Coalition and Michigan health freedom advocates are monitoring the situation and would welcome any new advocates to join the cause of getting a health freedom bill passed there.

**Minnesota:** In 2016, NHFA worked with MN advocates from several health freedom and natural health groups to oppose SF 1310/HF 644, the Massage and Bodywork Therapy Act. This bill sought to create a "voluntary" state registration regulation but NHFA opposed the bill because it opened the door to allow cities to discriminate against MN 146A practitioners. Minnesota already has good massage and bodywork laws under MN146A supporting the diverse community of natural health and bodywork practitioners around the state and additional state registration is unnecessary and would've put out of business many smaller businesses and schools of wonderful practitioners that do not attend the registration mandated schools. The bills received a lot of movement this year and were incorporated into the Health Omnibus bills in both chambers but, fortunately, the bill's language was not included in the final report that came out of the conference committee so they died.

Also in 2016, Minnesota health freedom advocates continued to work to oppose HF 393/SF 380, Vaccine Exemption Modification bills, which would've made opting out of childhood vaccinations more difficult for MN parents. NHFA worked with many health freedom activists and organizations to oppose S.F. 380/H.F. 393 by organizing a successful Lobby Day at the Capitol and working with Senator, Jim Abeler, to maintain the status quo on vaccine exemptions in MN. NHFA is happy to report that these bills are dead and, hopefully, won't be reintroduced.

Most recently, NHFA participated in the Minneapolis March Against Monsanto on Sat., May 21, 2016 to help spread awareness about the detrimental impacts on human health and the environment caused by this company's products. Thanks to Organic Consumers Association, MN Right to Know, and everyone who joined us at the march. MN advocates are hopeful that a Mandatory GMO-labeling law will one day pass in MN!

To connect with the Minnesota Natural Health - Legal Reform Project (MNH-LRP), please contact Leo at [dams@usfamily.net](mailto:dams@usfamily.net) or visit [www.mnhlrp.org/](http://www.mnhlrp.org/). MNH-LRP was the lead lobbying group for MN146A, the Minnesota Complementary and Alternative Health Freedom of Access Act of 1999, and they continue to monitor bills at the state capitol to keep legislators informed about top priority issues for health freedom. To connect with the Minnesota Natural Health Coalition, contact Lee at (612) 721-7108 or visit [www.minnesotanaturalhealth.org](http://www.minnesotanaturalhealth.org).

**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 Exemption laws passed!

**Mississippi: Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2015 NHFA Update.** NHFA is not aware of a health freedom group in Mississippi at this time; please email NHFA for more information on Mississippi or for help starting a health freedom group for Mississippi residents.

**Missouri: Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2015 NHFA Update.** NHFA is in contact with a new health freedom group in Missouri and is supporting their launch. Please email NHFA for more information on Missouri. In the past, health freedom advocates in Missouri launched the Missouri Health Freedom Campaign to explore the possibility of passing a health freedom bill in their state. In April 2014 Diane Miller traveled to Kansas City and met with their leaders to discuss the process of passing a Safe Harbor Exemption law. The new group is coming out of those contacts.

**Montana: Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2011 NHFA Update.** To connect with the Montana Health Freedom Coalition, please contact Linda Peterson at [linpetey@yahoo.com](mailto:linpetey@yahoo.com) or visit [www.montanahealthfreedom.org](http://www.montanahealthfreedom.org). 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, S.B.287, 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: Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2015 NHFA Update.** To connect with Nevada health freedom advocates, contact Jim Jenks, Sunshine Health Freedom Foundation Coordinator in Nevada, at [jim@herbalrose.com](mailto:jim@herbalrose.com).

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

**2015 Nevada Wellness Services Law** provides a state exemption for those practitioners providing wellness services who avoid a specific list of prohibited conduct (such as puncturing the skin or administering prescription drugs or telling people to go off their treatments recommended by their licensed health care professional) and who give out the disclosure information listed in the bill (such as contact information, education and training, and the nature of the services to be rendered).

On July 1, 2015 Nevada became the 10<sup>th</sup> Health Freedom after Nevada's Governor signed A.B. 295 into law on June 8, 2015! Introduced by Assemblyman Kirner in March and moved out of the Assembly on April 20 (Yeas: 40, Nays: 2), A.B. 295 passed the Senate unanimously (Yeas: 20, Nays: None, Excused: 1) on May 19! Thank you to everyone who sent messages of support for A.B. 295 to their legislators and to the Committee members who heard the bill. We are especially grateful to Jim Jenks, Sunshine Health Freedom Foundation Coordinator in Nevada, and lobbyist Alexis Miller for their work on marshalling A.B. 295 through the Nevada legislature.

**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.*

**New Hampshire: Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2011 NHFA Update.** NHFA has health freedom contacts in New Hampshire but is not aware of an active health freedom group in New Hampshire at this time; please email NHFA for more information on New Hampshire or for help starting a health freedom group for New Hampshire residents.

**New Jersey:** NHFA opposes New Jersey's 2016 Dietitian Licensing Bill, S.B. 1318/A.B. 1820, which seeks to unconstitutionally limit freedom of speech and freedom of choice in practitioners of natural health. As introduced, the bill would have limited herbalists, naturopaths, nutritional consultants, and holistic health coaches - and even Moms, Dads, and grandparents- who need to talk and make recommendations about food and herbs all the time. This bill would've limited their practices and limited their speech about nutrition without any evidence that consumers were being harmed without restrictive regulation. Fortunately, the bill was significantly amended when it was heard in the Senate Commerce Committee on May 16, 2016; there, the definition of the practice of dietetics/nutrition was changed to be, essentially, just medical nutrition therapy only (see page 2) but that term - which was originally defined separately in the bill - was removed. Additionally, the title protections section was amended to give back/allow for the use of the term "nutrition specialist". After that hearing, the bill was sent to Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee where it remains. NHFA continues to oppose and monitor this bill.

In 2016, New Jersey also introduced two particular bills related to vaccinations on which NHFA took action; one NHFA supports, A.B. 2727, would add a conscientious belief exemption to mandatory immunization requirements, and the other, A.B. 2647, NHFA opposes, as it would require HPV vaccination for 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. Neither A.B. 2727 nor A.B. 2647 has moved since being introduced and referred to committee on February 8, 2016.

The relatively new health freedom group in New Jersey, the Natural Healing Alliance, got their feet wet at the Capitol in 2014 when NHFA worked with them to strengthen a bill that was amending the NJ massage law to be less restrictive of the practices of energy healers and bodyworkers. NHFA helped them provide strong health freedom amendments to the Sponsor of the bill, Sen. Bucco, to make the exemption language in S.B. 1608 even stronger. NHFA looks forward to continuing to work with NHA in 2016 and beyond to protect all natural healers in New Jersey.

For more information on New Jersey email NHFA or connect with New Jersey leader Susan Lieberman by visiting the [Natural Healing Alliance](#).

**New Mexico: Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2015 NHFA Update.** For more information on New Mexico email NHFA or connect with New Mexico leaders by contacting [info@nmcaamp.org](mailto:info@nmcaamp.org) or by visiting [www.nmcaamp.org](http://www.nmcaamp.org).

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

**2009 New Mexico Safe Harbor Exemption Law:** New Mexico H.B.664, signed into law by the Governor on April 7, 2009, is a Safe Harbor Exemption law for persons engaged in traditional, cultural, complementary or alternative health care. New Mexico's Complementary and Alternative Medicine Project (NMCAAMP) leaders successfully moved their exemption bill through to passage after two years of preparation and study mandated by the legislature.

**New York:** NHFA is watching several practitioner bills in New York in 2016 - all of which are familiar to us for New York and all of which NHFA is opposing; these include bills for Dietitian and Nutritionist Licensure (S.B. 362/A.B. 1257), a bill to incorporate all Complementary and Alternative Medicine into the practice of Dietetics (A.B. 2108), a Reflexology Licensing bill (A.B. 2286), and bills to regulate the practice of Naturopathic Medicine (S.B. 4917/A.B. 10128 and A.B. 7035). We are happy to report that none of these bills has been scheduled for a hearing since being introduced and referred to committee(s) but NHFA will continue to monitor them closely.

Among the vaccine exemption-related bills introduced in NY in 2016, NHFA is most concerned by S.B. 6017/A.B. 8329, which seeks to repeal religious belief exemptions to immunizations. If this bill passes, New York would become the fourth



state nationwide to adopt such a strict immunization standard, joining California, Mississippi, and West Virginia! NHFA will send an alert to NY residents urging them to defend and protect their right to voluntary and informed decision-making about medical interventions by acknowledging that those without medical-based reasons for exempting have legal autonomy rights under the state laws of New York should this bill start moving in 2016.

To connect with New York leaders, contact Kirk Bashaw at [kbashaw1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:kbashaw1@rochester.rr.com). In the past NY introduced 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, A.B. 8733, was introduced January 30, 2007 by Assemblyman Michael Benedetto. A.B. 8733 sought 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: Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2015 NHFA Update.** To connect with North Carolina's Citizens for Healthcare Freedom, contact [nchfreedom@aol.com](mailto:nchfreedom@aol.com) and visit [www.citizensforhealthcarefreedom.org](http://www.citizensforhealthcarefreedom.org). 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:** The Ohio Consumer Health Freedom Bill (S.B. 194), protecting access to natural health care practitioners, did not move in 2016. Introduced by Senator Kris Jordan on July 8, 2015 and assigned to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee in September 2015, S.B. 194 is now unfortunately not likely to move this year and so it will have to be reintroduced and assigned a new bill number in 2017. A strong grassroots community is ready and waiting to support the Ohio Sunshine Health Freedom Coalition, who remains the force behind the bill at the Capitol.

The Ohio health freedom bill was reintroduced in the Ohio General Assembly in 2013 after it passed the House of Representatives in 2012 (see H.B. 259). 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.

To connect with Ohio leaders, contact Susan Gingerich at [gingerichsusan@gmail.com](mailto:gingerichsusan@gmail.com) and visit [www.ohiohealthfreedom.info](http://www.ohiohealthfreedom.info).

**Oklahoma:** In 2016 Oklahoma introduced, and NHFA was closely watching, S.B. 615, a Dietitian Licensing Bill, that was adding to the existing Dietetics law. Currently OK has Dietitian licensing under the state Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision and the Advisory Committee on Dietetics Registration of the State Board of Medical Examiners. Current law has definitions for "Dietetics" but the new bill sought to amend and expand the definition to include "Dietetics" or "nutrition practice" and to include specific definitions for "nutrition assessment" and "nutrition counseling". Current law makes it a crime to use a restricted title but does not restrict the "practice" of dietetics. Sections of S.B. 615 were adding new law, which made it clear that nothing in the act can be construed to prevent or restrict the practices, services or activities of a list of types of practitioners; however NHFA was still watching this bill closely because this is a curious and potentially confusing addition and could possibly give the impression that the Board could restrict persons not licensed in their activities, but the bill does not prohibit anyone from the "practice" of dietetics or nutrition, but rather only prohibits one from holding oneself out as licensed.

Fortunately, amendments were agreed to that removed all the exemption language and all of the physician inserted language that gave the medical board broad powers. The bill passed and was signed by the Governor in June 2016. Oklahoma's law remains a title protection bill, licensing dietitians and affecting no one else unless they use the title "licensed dietitian".

To connect with Oklahoma leaders, contact Oklahoma Health Freedom Action Network at [catherinerottnd@gmail.com](mailto:catherinerottnd@gmail.com). 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.

**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!

**Oregon: Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2015 NHFA Update.** Please email NHFA for more information on Oregon or for help starting a health freedom group for Oregon residents. 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. NHFA is not aware of any other active health freedom group in Oregon at this time.

**Pennsylvania: Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2015 NHFA Update.** To connect with Pennsylvania leaders, contact NHFA. NHFA will soon hold a public conference call for PA residents interested in Health Freedom to try to find the advocates and resources to move ahead a Safe Harbor bill for PA. 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 does not have the resources to move ahead.

**Rhode Island:** In 2016, NHFA supported S.B. 2292, a bill to reinstate the philosophical exemption to vaccinations and to restrict the department of health's authority to impose and/or change the current mandated vaccinations. Unfortunately, the Health and Human Services Committee recommended S.B. 2292 be held for further study on March 31, 2016.

NHFA is not aware of a health freedom group in Rhode Island at this time; please email NHFA for more information on Rhode Island or for help starting a health freedom group for Rhode Island residents.

**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 NHFA offered support. See: TITLE 2, Health and Safety, CHAPTER 23-74, Unlicensed Health Care Practices, SECTION 23-74-1.

**South Carolina: Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2014 NHFA Update.** 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 information on South Carolina or to connect with South Carolina leaders, contact Caroline at [Carolyn.haigler@yahoo.com](mailto:Carolyn.haigler@yahoo.com).

**South Dakota:** South Dakota introduced S.B. 28, a bill requiring meningococcal immunization for school entry. NHFA opposed this bill but, unfortunately, it was passed and signed by the Governor on Feb. 29, 2016.

NHFA is not aware of a health freedom group in South Dakota at this time; please email NHFA for more information on South Dakota or for help starting a health freedom group for South Dakota residents. 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 2016...No activity reported since 2015 NHFA Update.** NHFA is not aware of a health freedom group in Tennessee at this time; please email NHFA for more information on Tennessee or for help starting a health freedom group for Tennessee residents.

**Texas: Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2015 NHFA Update.** To connect with Texas Health Freedom Coalition, please visit their website, [www.texashealthfreedom.com](http://www.texashealthfreedom.com), or call Peter McCarthy at (210) 372-0557 and to connect with Texas Complementary and Alternative Medical Association, contact [team4hf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:team4hf@sbcglobal.net). Back in 2013, Texas introduced HJR 125, a Health Freedom Constitutional Amendment proposal. NHFA supported this effort but the bill was not passed before the end of session. Over the last four 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.

**Utah:** Utah introduced H.B. 221, a bill requiring completion of an online education module in order to exercise medical, religious and personal belief exemptions to vaccination for public and private school and daycare students. NHFA opposed this burdensome bill and is happy to report that the bill died on March 10, 2016.

NHFA is in contact with health freedom leaders in Utah but they are not an active working health freedom group at this time and would like the opportunity to support any new leaders there; please email NHFA for more information on Utah. 2014 brought new contacts in Utah and Utah health freedom activists are beginning to consider introducing 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.

**Vermont:** In the 2015-2016 legislative session, Vermont introduced two bills related to massage, however, neither has moved since being introduced in March 2015. S.B. 127 is a bill to study whether the state should License Massage Therapy and H.B. 461 is a Massage Therapy Registration bill; both bills are in the Government Operations Committee.

Also in 2015\6, the Vermont GMO-labeling law (see 2014 H.B.112) went into effect on July 1, 2016. NHFA is celebrating this first no-strings-attached GMO-labeling law despite the fact that it is still the subject of a lawsuit brought by the Grocery Manufacturer's Association and despite strong ongoing attempts at the federal level to prevent all state labeling laws entirely (S. 2609). The new law provides that any genetically engineered food sold in Vermont must be labeled by July 1, 2016 and that foods containing GMO-ingredients will also not be allowed to be labeled "natural."

To connect with Vermont leaders, contact Guido Mase at [guido@vtherbcenter.org](mailto:guido@vtherbcenter.org).

**Virginia:** Virginia passed a Massage Therapists Licensure bill in 2016, H.B. 562, and NHFA is happy to report that it includes a health freedom amendment that protects the rights of unlicensed practitioners to practice. H.B. 562 was signed by the Governor on March 10, 2016. Congratulations to John and Becky Hanks and to Virginians for Health Freedom for their work to get the amendment language added - what a great gift to protect these practitioners in VA!

Also, VA activists came together to successfully defeat H.B. 1342, a bill that sought to remove VA's religious exemption to vaccination requirements, leaving only medical exemptions in place. Virginians for Health Freedom, homeschoolers, and other parent and health freedom advocates in VA joined together to make their voices heard in Richmond. NHFA is encouraged by their unity and accomplishment. After H.B. 1342 was struck in the full Health, Welfare and Institutions committee and was not heard in the subcommittee in February 2016, one of the committee chairs, per common VA procedure, wrote a letter to the Joint Commission on Health Care to request a study on the issue. It is not a new bill but, as of May 2016, work on the study has begun; the JCHC meets in May, Sept., Oct., and then in Nov. to vote on the study.

To connect with Virginians for Health Freedom visit [www.va4hf.org](http://www.va4hf.org) or email [john.hanks77@gmail.com](mailto:john.hanks77@gmail.com) and to connect with the Virginia Chapter of the CNHPs (Certified Natural Health Professionals), visit [www.cnhpva.org](http://www.cnhpva.org) or email Jane at [janet@cnhp.org](mailto:janet@cnhp.org). Virginians for Health Freedom continue their work to lay the ground work for introducing a health freedom bill in Virginia in 2015. 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: Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2015 NHFA Update.** To connect with Washington leaders, contact Health Freedom Washington at [healthfreedom.wa@gmail.com](mailto:healthfreedom.wa@gmail.com) and visit [www.healthfreedomwa.org](http://www.healthfreedomwa.org). Health Freedom Washington, a Washington group of activists who were previously working in support of a safe harbor bill for natural health practitioners have been inactive since the 2011 session. In the past, they held successful meetings with legislators and regulators and worked hard to build consensus among all parties and to find a sponsor who 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; at least seven licensed and unlicensed practitioners who provide alternative health care have been investigated in the past ten years. In response to the investigations, activists have formed organizations with the goal of changing the laws.

**West Virginia: Quiet in 2016...No activity reported since 2014 NHFA Update.** NHFA is not aware of a health freedom group in West Virginia at this time; please email NHFA for more information on West Virginia or for help starting a health freedom group for West Virginia residents.

**Wisconsin:** Wisconsin joined the disappointing national trend of introducing legislation to restrict health freedom when it comes to vaccines, with A.B. 924, a bill to removing personal belief exemptions from Wisconsin's immunization laws. NHFA strongly opposed this bill and is happy to report that the bill failed to pass in 2016 pursuant to Senate joint resolution 1.

Wisconsin Health Freedom Coalition continues their work to pass their Wisconsin Consumer Choice and Wellness bill protecting access to herbalists, traditional naturopaths, homeopaths and all natural health care practitioners, by increasing their network and Capitol contacts and interviewing potential lobbyists for the next session. Unfortunately, their bill did not move in 2016. Their bills, S.B. 198/A.B. 307, were introduced in the Senate on June 17, 2015 and in the Assembly on August 10 and were referred to the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services and the Assembly Committee on Health. S.B. 198/A.B. 307 is authored by Senators Moulton, Lasee and Olsen and is cosponsored by Representatives Murphy, T. Larson, Quinn and Ripp. Wisconsin's bill will protect consumer access to complementary and alternative health care practitioners practicing within the parameters of the bill.

To connect with Wisconsin leaders, please visit contact Syncha at [synchaa@gmail.com](mailto:synchaa@gmail.com) and visit [Wisconsin Health Freedom Coalition at www.wihfc.com](http://www.wihfc.com). The Wisconsin Health Freedom Coalition is working with a lobbyist to help get the Health Committee Chairs to schedule a hearing on S.B.198/A.B. 307. NHFA sent attorney Anne Tenner to WI in January 2015 to meet WIHFC's new lobbyist at the WI Capitol and continues to closely support WI efforts.