

## Assembly Bill No. 1943

### CHAPTER 781

An act to amend Section 4939 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to healing arts.

[Approved by Governor September 21, 2002. Filed with Secretary of State September 22, 2002.]

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1943, Chu. Acupuncture.

Existing law, the Acupuncture Licensure Act, regulates the practice and licensure of acupuncture and establishes the Acupuncture Board to enforce and administer these provisions.

Existing provisions of the act require the board to establish standards for the approval of schools and colleges offering education and training in the practice of an acupuncturist.

This bill would require that those standards include a minimum of 3,000 hours of study in curriculum pertaining to the practice of an acupuncturist and would require that the revised standards be established by the board on or before January 1, 2004. The bill would provide that the standards would apply to all students entering programs on or after January 1, 2005.

This bill would declare the intent of the Legislature, if SB 1951 of the Statutes of 2002 is passed, to consider for implementation recommendations to increase curriculum hours for the licensure of acupuncturists in excess of 3,000 hours up to 4,000 hours. The bill would also declare the intent of the Legislature that the commission provide recommendations for reviewing the competence of certain licensed acupuncturists and recommendations for training, testing, or continuing education of those acupuncturists.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature:

(a) In the event that Senate Bill 1951 is enacted in the Statutes of 2002, to consider for implementation the recommendations of the Milton Marks "Little Hoover" Commission on California State Government Organization and Economy to increase curriculum hours for the licensure of acupuncturists in excess of 3,000 hours up to 4,000 hours to fully and effectively provide health services under their scope of practice.



(b) That the commission shall provide recommendations for reviewing the competence of licensed acupuncturists who are not subject to the 3,000 hour minimum curriculum requirement, and shall provide recommendations for training, testing, or continuing education that would be required for these individuals to meet the standards for continued licensure.

SEC. 2. Section 4939 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4939. (a) On or before January 1, 2004, the board shall establish standards for the approval of schools and colleges offering education and training in the practice of an acupuncturist, including standards for the faculty in those schools and colleges and tutorial programs, completion of which will satisfy the requirements of Section 4938.

(b) Standards for the approval of training programs shall include a minimum of 3,000 hours of study in curriculum pertaining to the practice of an acupuncturist. This subdivision shall apply to all students entering programs on or after January 1, 2005.

(c) Within three years of initial approval by the board, each program so approved by the board shall receive full institutional approval under Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 94760) of Chapter 7 of Part 59 of the Education Code in the field of traditional oriental medicine, or in the case of institutions located outside of this state, approval by the appropriate governmental educational authority using standards equivalent to those of Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 94760) of Chapter 7 of Part 59 of the Education Code, or the board's approval of the program shall automatically lapse.

