

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 969**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Eng**

February 22, 2007

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An act to amend and repeal Section 4945 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to acupuncture.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 969, as introduced, Eng. Acupuncture: continuing education.

Existing law, the Acupuncture Licensure Act, provides for the licensing and regulation of acupuncturists by the Acupuncture Board. Existing law requires a licensed acupuncturist to complete 50 hours of continuing education every 2 years, of which no more than 5 hours may be spent on issues unrelated to clinical matters or the actual provision of health care to patients.

This bill would delete the restriction that no more than 5 of the mandatory continuing education hours may be spent on issues unrelated to clinical matters or the actual provision of health care to patients.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
State-mandated local program: no.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 4945 of the Business and Professions
- 2 Code, as amended by Section 15 of Chapter 983 of the Statutes of
- 3 1991, is repealed.
- 4 ~~4945. (a) The committee shall establish standards for~~
- 5 ~~continuing education for acupuncturists.~~

1 ~~(b) The committee shall require each acupuncturist to complete~~  
2 ~~15 hours of continuing education every year as a condition for~~  
3 ~~renewal of his or her certificate. A provider of continuing education~~  
4 ~~shall apply to the committee for approval to offer continuing~~  
5 ~~education courses for credit toward this requirement on a form~~  
6 ~~developed by the committee, shall pay a fee covering the cost of~~  
7 ~~approval and for the monitoring of the provider by the committee~~  
8 ~~and shall set forth the following information on the application:~~

- 9 ~~(1) Course content.~~
- 10 ~~(2) Test criteria.~~
- 11 ~~(3) Hours of continuing education credit requested for the~~  
12 ~~course.~~
- 13 ~~(4) Experience and training of instructors.~~
- 14 ~~(5) Other information as required by the committee.~~
- 15 ~~(6) That interpreters or bilingual instruction will be made~~  
16 ~~available, when necessary.~~

17 ~~(e) Licensees residing out of state or out of the country shall~~  
18 ~~comply with the continuing education requirements.~~

19 ~~(d) Providers of continuing education shall be monitored by the~~  
20 ~~committee as determined by the committee.~~

21 ~~(e) If the committee determines that any acupuncturist has not~~  
22 ~~obtained the required number of hours of continuing education, it~~  
23 ~~may renew the acupuncturist's license and require that the deficient~~  
24 ~~hours of continuing education be made up during the following~~  
25 ~~renewal period in addition to the current continuing education~~  
26 ~~required for that period. If any acupuncturist fails to make up the~~  
27 ~~deficient hours and complete the current requirement of hours of~~  
28 ~~continuing education during the subsequent renewal period, then~~  
29 ~~his or her license to practice acupuncture shall not be renewed~~  
30 ~~until all the required hours are completed and documented to the~~  
31 ~~committee.~~

32 ~~(f) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 1996,~~  
33 ~~and shall have no force or effect on or after that date, unless a later~~  
34 ~~enacted statute, which is enacted before January 1, 1996, deletes~~  
35 ~~or extends that date.~~

36 SEC. 2. Section 4945 of the Business and Professions Code,  
37 as amended by Section 1 of Chapter 648 of the Statutes of 2005,  
38 is amended to read:

39 4945. (a) The board shall establish standards for continuing  
40 education for acupuncturists.

1 (b) The board shall require each acupuncturist to complete 50  
2 hours of continuing education every two years as a condition for  
3 renewal of his or her license. ~~No more than five hours of continuing~~  
4 ~~education in each two-year period may be spent on issues unrelated~~  
5 ~~to clinical matters or the actual provision of health care to patients.~~  
6 A provider of continuing education shall apply to the board for  
7 approval to offer continuing education courses for credit toward  
8 this requirement on a form developed by the board, shall pay a fee  
9 covering the cost of approval and for the monitoring of the provider  
10 by the board and shall set forth the following information on the  
11 application:  
12 (1) Course content.  
13 (2) Test criteria.  
14 (3) Hours of continuing education credit requested for the  
15 course.  
16 (4) Experience and training of instructors.  
17 (5) Other information as required by the board.  
18 (6) That interpreters or bilingual instruction will be made  
19 available, when necessary.  
20 (c) Licensees residing out of state or out of the country shall  
21 comply with the continuing education requirements.  
22 (d) Providers of continuing education shall be monitored by the  
23 board as determined by the board.  
24 (e) If the board determines that any acupuncturist has not  
25 obtained the required number of hours of continuing education, it  
26 may renew the acupuncturist's license and require that the deficient  
27 hours of continuing education be made up during the following  
28 renewal period in addition to the current continuing education  
29 required for that period. If any acupuncturist fails to make up the  
30 deficient hours and complete the current requirement of hours of  
31 continuing education during the subsequent renewal period, then  
32 his or her license to practice acupuncture shall not be renewed  
33 until all the required hours are completed and documented to the  
34 board.

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