Naturopathic Medicine Committee Report to the Osteopathic Medical Board November 5, 2010

Budget Update:

- At the end of FY 2009-10, the Committee had 16.5 months in reserve. (Copy of Fund Condition enclosed) Fund projections show revenue should continue to outpace expenditures in the current and next fiscal years, thereby adding to the reserve fund.
- Three budget change proposals (BCPs) for FY 2011-2012 were submitted to the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Budget Office in June 2010 to address an anticipated increase in expenditures for (1) Committee member per diem & travel, (2) personnel, and (3) enforcement. All 3 BCPs were rejected by Agency as were all other BCPs submitted by the DCA.
- In meeting with a Budget Office manager, the Committee was assured our fiscal requirements could and would be met with guidance from that office.

Licensees:

- The Bureau/Committee licensed 431 naturopathic doctors since January 2005.
- There are 43 lapsed licenses and 10 inactive licensees.
- There are 17 pending applications on file.

Enforcement:

- FY 2009-2010: One complaint was filed concerning patient safety; the complaint was dismissed for lack of merit as the ND was under MD supervision while prescribing medications.
- FY 2010-2011: One complaint was filed alleging sexual misconduct. That complaint was sent to the DCA Division of Investigation (DOI) in September 2010. This is the first complaint that the Bureau or Committee has had to refer for investigation.
- In August 2010, citations and fines were levied against two unlicensed practitioners for repeated title infringement. After appeal and after receiving additional information, one citation and fine was dismissed. The other citation and fine is unpaid as of this date.
- Of the 62 complaints received in FY 2009-2010, 6 were non-jurisdictional and 45 were closed due to compliance.