

# MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

2026

2007 SENATE HUMAN SERVICES

SB 2026

## 2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 2026

Senate Human Services Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: 1-09-07

Recorder Job Number: 814

Committee Clerk Signature

*Mary K Monson*

Minutes:

Senator J. Lee, Chairman, opened the hearing on SB 2026 relating to creation of the allied health professions board; to provide an appropriation; and to provide a penalty. All members were present.

Senator J. Lee reported that this was reviewed by the interim budget committee on health care and introduced at that committee's request.

Don Wolf, Legislative Council, staffed the interim budget committee on health care which adopted this bill. He was appearing to just explain the bill. Section 1 provides a definition of Allied Health Professions, those clinical health care professions distinct from the medical profession and nursing profession.

Allied health profession board membership would include for members to each serve for three years. Board membership appointment would be 3-5 members from the general public and 3 members from each licensed profession.

The powers and duties would regulate the practice of each allied health profession.

The board is required to meet at least once a year.

Starting on page 3, line 13, are some of the key points of the bill. It provides for existing professions to petition to be a member of the board and for the board of entities to submit

legislation to the next legislative assembly for inclusion as part of the board. And number 2, may submit a petition to the board for inclusion as a member of the board. It's up to the board to determine to submit a bill for inclusion of the new profession.

On page 4 there is an appropriation of \$4,000 from the general fund. This is for operating expenses needed for the first few months of the entity because there are no members and no revenue source.

Senator Dever asked who the allied health professions involve. Asked if there is a definition of medical and nursing professions?

Mr. Wolf said that is kind of generic term as has been applied to this. This bill might apply more to specialties, like acupuncture, or occupational therapists. The intent of this bill is to provide an option for those professions that have a smaller membership to become part of a board to have the licensing regulation aspects. Normally it is difficult for the membership itself to sustain it with billing, dues, and fees.

Senator Warner asked if there are reimbursement issues associated with licensure. Does a profession need to be recognized and licensed in order to be reimbursed by insurance-blues.

Mr. Wolf said that is a good point. There are different aspects. There is registration, which the acupuncturists might be dealing with, and regulation is a requirement for reimbursement from BCBS. Regulation is more just a list created of those providing and, with that alone, you wouldn't be able to have reimbursement from BCBS.

Senator Warner asked if we are allowing anybody who wants to be recognized as an allied health profession.

Senator J. Lee replied that the board gets to decide if they want to take them.

Mr. Wolf said it would also have to be subject to approval of the legislative assembly because the bill would have to be introduced to the legislative assembly for recognition as being included in part of the board.

Senator J. Lee said it is important to mention also that this has never been intended to supersede any of the current existing professional boards. They will continue to regulate their own professions. The concept of this allied health board is to be an umbrella under which some of these small specialty groups might fit if they choose to be applying for licensure.

Bonnie Staiger, ND Psychological Association, testified in favor of SB 2026. She wanted to clarify a couple of points. First, often times, the issues are about reimbursement. That is something to continue to watch and be aware of, because licensure is always the first step to reimbursement. The other thing is that there may be an opportunity for the marriage and family therapists, who were approved last session, to establish their own board and their own regulatory profession. But, they may not have the critical mass of members to accomplish that. They may be one to petition to be part of this group. Another issue of concern to her is the makeup of the board. A potential area of concern is that there would potentially be the same number of public members serving on the board as people who are regulated by the profession. She hopes that would be clarified some way so that the people on the board representing the professions are always the majority.

Senator J. Lee suggested that maybe there could be one member of the public to every three members of a profession, at least until the board may include more and more professions.

Ms. Staiger responded that is a logical way to approach it. The way the language is written, it really doesn't provide for that.

There was no opposing or neutral testimony.

The hearing on SB 2026 was closed.

The members discussed how the bill is written concerning members and licensing of the allied board and what the wording really means. They also talked about how many and what professions would want to be a part of this.

Senator J. Lee said part of the committee's job is to decide if the whole concept has value and whether or not it is practical to go ahead with it.

## 2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. SB 2026

Senate Human Services Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: 1-10-07

Recorder Job Number: 886

Committee Clerk Signature

*Mary K Monson*

Minutes:

Senator J. Lee, Chairman opened SB 2026 for discussion. Because there is confusion by existing boards who would be under the Allied Health Professions Board, she is thinking that maybe an amendment should be prepared that would indicate all existing professional boards would be exempted or would be able to continue as independent boards. They would be able fall within this bill and petition to be a part of the allied health board if they chose to be. The board would, of course, have the right to decide whether they want to accept them.

Senator Warner asked who normally provides the executive director.

Senator J. Lee said they are hired out.

There was discussion on this being a real good idea in theory but reservations on how it would be in practice. Each profession is unique and one can't make decisions for another.

Senator Heckaman recommended those proposing this providing a list of those interested in being members.

Senator J. Lee said it came out of the interim committee and that committee decided they wanted to move it forward.

Senator Dever asked if they had practitioners actually testify.

Senator J. Lee said no.

There was discussion on whether there really is a demand for this or if it is just a good idea to bring all these groups having only a few members together. They also discussed licensing and the idea of ND recognizing licensure from another state. It is unclear why there isn't reciprocity with other states with relation to, for example, acupuncture.



## 2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. SB 2026

Senate Human Services Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: 1-23-07

Recorder Job Number: 1715

Committee Clerk Signature

*Mary K Monson*

Minutes:

Senator J. Lee, Chairman, opened SB 2026 for discussion. She reported that she visited with some people who work with boards and asked them if they thought this would work. The general concept was that they didn't think so. Part of the reason was that if more professions come into it, other specialty professions, you have three from each of these different professions. If there is something wrong with one profession everyone can have input into the allied health board discussion even when they don't know anything about it. From the administrative point of view there are private sector folks who are working as executive directors, part time administrators for them. And the big deal is the development of rules that applies to all of them.

There was some discussion on the potential problems with this type of board and the possibility of setting it aside until the time there is more interest and how it would fit with the acupuncturists. They didn't see any burning desire for this.

Senator Erbele moved a Do No Pass on SB 2026. Senator Dever seconded.

Roll call vote 6-0-0. Carrier is Senator Dever.



**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**SB 2026: Human Services Committee (Sen. J. Lee, Chairman) recommends DO NOT PASS (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2026 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.**

2007 TESTIMONY

SB 2026

# Allied health professions

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **allied health professions** are those clinical healthcare professions distinct from the medical and nursing professions. As the name implies, they are all allies in the healthcare team, working together to make the healthcare system function.

Depending on the country and local healthcare system, some of the following professions may be represented, and may be regulated: athletic training, bioengineering, chiropody, dental hygiene, diagnostic medical sonography, electrocardiographic technicians, hemodialysis technicians, Medical Technologists (MT), Medical Laboratory Technicians (MLT), medical assistants, medical coders and billers, medical secretaries, nutrition and dietetics, occupational therapy, phlebotomy, kinesiotherapy, nuclear medicine technology, physical therapy, radiography, radiation therapy, radiological technology, respiratory therapy, speech therapy, and ultrasound. They all belong to the ever growing group of allied health professionals and their subspecialties. The precise titles and roles in the allied health professions vary considerably from country to country.

The explosion of scientific knowledge that followed World War II brought increasingly sophisticated and complex diagnostic and treatment procedures to the science of medicine. In addition, increasing medical and healthcare costs have created a trend away from treating patients in hospitals toward the provision of care in physician's private and group practices, and ambulatory medical and emergency clinics. What followed was an increase in the need for expertly trained healthcare delivery personnel.

As their job descriptions become more specialised, they must adhere to national training and education standards, their professional scope of practice, and often prove their skills through diplomas, certified credentials, and continuing education. Members of the allied health professions must be proficient in the use of many skills. Some of which are medical terminology, acronym and spelling, basics of medical law and ethics, understanding of human relations, interpersonal communication skills, counseling skills, computer literacy, ability to document healthcare information, interviewing skills, and proficiency in word processing, database management and electronic dictation.

## External links

- Allied health careers (<http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/2322.html>)
- Allied health schools (<http://www.allalliedhealthschools.com/>)
- Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions (<http://www.asahp.org/>) (ASAHP)
- NHS Careers - UK (<http://www.nhscareers.nhs.uk/careers/ahp/index.html>)
- Google search: Allied health professions (<http://www.google.com/search?sourceid=navclient&ie=UTF-8&rls=GGLD,GGLD:2005-38,GGLD:en&q=%27%27Allied+health+professions%27%27>)

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Categories: Articles lacking sources from July 2006 | All articles lacking sources | Healthcare | Occupation stubs

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Re: SB 2026

FROM:

<http://www.med.und.nodak.edu/depts/inmed/AcademicYearPrograms.html>

**Allied  
Health  
Fields**

The University of North Dakota offers academic programs in a variety of other health fields. Some of the career categories are not considered for IHS scholarships. Priority scholarship categories can vary and are dependent on personnel needs in Indian health. Please discuss current details with an INMED counselor.

**UND Offers Health Careers in the Following**

**Areas:**

Clinical Laboratory Science (Medical Technology)

Clinical Psychology

Counseling

Dietetic and Nutrition

Occupational Therapy

Physician's Assistant

Physical Therapy

Social Work

Psychology, Undergraduate and Graduate