

HCS HB 475 -- DIETITIANS

SPONSOR: Grier

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Professional Registration and Licensing by a vote of 10 to 4. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Legislative Oversight by a vote of 6 to 3.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 475.

This bill allows a person credentialed in the field of nutrition to provide advice, counseling, or evaluations in matters of food, diet, or nutrition to the extent such acts are within the scope of practice listed by the credentialing body and do not constitute medical nutrition therapy, as long as the person does not hold himself or herself out as a dietitian. Such individuals are required to provide certain specified information to their clients.

This bill is similar to HB 2000 (2020) and HB 472 (2019).

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the current law restricts the activities of nutritionists, health coaches, and other individuals who want to be able to give advice about food. Supporters say that the current law has created a monopoly for dietitians and put up artificial barriers. Nutritionists and health coaches should be able to practice in Missouri to the extent allowed under their scopes of practice. The public should be able to choose what services they want and from whom.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Grier; Aimee Dixon Plumlee; Amanda Dane; Andrea Reynolds; Betsy Miller; Brandy Hickman, 2B Well Integrative Health Collaborative, Living Light, Missouri Nutrition Alliance; Brigitte Factor; Corey Lakes; Diane Troup; Elizabeth Pelkey; Emily Kembell; Erin Anderson; Gretchen Cliburn; Jennifer Brown, Missouri Nutrition Alliance; Jonathan Posey, Council of Holistic Health Educators; Karri Ball; Karri Ball; Kesta Smith, Missouri Nutrition Alliance; Linda Strait; Lisa Ebisch; Margo Spilde; Marianne Jones; Marie Moore; Melesha Bailey, Love 4 Life Wellness; Melissa Bondy; Michael Swofford; Nancy Lynne Meeseey; Savannah Stephens; Shannan Slavens; Tamara Blasi; Jessica Idleman, Missouri Nutrition Alliance; Beth Ann Carlton; Brian Hickman; Bryan D Warner, Health By Design MD; Erin Maclin, Missouri Nutrition Alliance; Jeremy Idleman; Council Of Holistic Health

Educators; Katrina Bogdon; Kristen Brokaw, St. Louis Institute of Integrative Medicine; Lynn Feeler; Myleah Shrimpton; Renee Weissend; Shelley Todd; Tilghman J, Feeler; Valerie Federwitz; Lori Bourgeois Rn; Sharon A Kenny; Annette Hosmann; Amanda Laplante; Angelica R Bustamante; Arnie C. Dienoff; Brett Ewer, Crossfit, LLC; Douglas Brown, Benefits Alliance; Emily Fitzgibbons; Americans For Prosperity; Jerod Posey; Mallory; Rebecca Mcconville Ms Rd Ld Cstd Cedrd-S; Ida Olivia Bracken; Heather Fischer Page; Justin Nichols; and Jamie Kilgore.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that this bill completely guts the dietitian licensing provisions in the state. Under the current law anyone can give generalized nutrition information but dietitians provide nutritional assessments and individual evaluations. This bill would blur that line so anyone could perform the same functions as a dietitian who has spent year on his or her education. The dietetic education is important as some food can interact negatively with certain medications or exacerbate certain medical conditions.

Testifying against the bill were Connie Diekman; Deanna L. Miller; Martin M Yadrick; Yalaka Huyette; Beth Piper; Carmen Berry, MPH, Rd, Ld; Carolyn Skelton; David Cravens; Delaney Wright; Jasmine Sickel; Lauren Landfried; Sarah J Eber; Amy Dirks, Amy Dirks Sports Nutrition, Llc; William Sanders; Dena French; Ranshell Harrington; Adrienne Pullins, Rd, Ld; Angela Cohen; Brandy Adelsberger; Brenda Roling, Missouri Academy Of Nutrition And Dietetics; Derek Helderma; Hailey Renae Wegner; Jaclyn Durbin; Jody Diebold, Rd, Ld, Cdces; Jordan Bommarito; Kimberly Jabrani; Lisa Finley; Lorie Bourne Ms, Rdn, Cso, Ld, Cnsc; Morgan Hostman; Rebecca Unterreiner; Sydney Ballard; Victoria Rich; Ashlee V. Zeiler, Ms, Rdn, Ld; Angela Franklin; Marilyn Tanner-Blasiar, Mhs, Rdn, Ld, Cdces, Fand; Megan Hickey; Aimee Cunningham; Allison Mills, Rd, Ld, Cnsc; Amanda Neal; Amy E Jacobsmeyer; Amy Jeffers; Andruw Michael Wittels; Anne Francis; April E Mcdonald, Rdn, Ld; Ashely Peterson Ms, Rd, Ld; Audra Kramer; Austin Gott; Barb Akers; Barbara Allen; Barbara Ransom; Blake Arnold; Brandon Urich; Brooke Kurkjian; Candace Petty; Carmen Boyd; Carole Field; Carolina Blanco-Cortes; Caroline Finnell; Caroline Van Marrelo; Cassandra Glixman; Cassidy Warne; Catherine; Catherine Akridge; Catherine Mciver; Catherine Reando; Chelsea Visintine; Cheryl Voelker; Christi L Mackey; Christine Breakfield; Connie Diekman; Connie Schmidt; Courtney Schlosser; Cristina Szatkiewski, Rd, Ld; Crystal Bradley; Crystal Spangler; Daniel Ticon; Daniela Novotny; Danielle Marie Lakenburger; Danielle Plutino; Darlene Lewandowski; Deanna Miller; Deborah K Piland; Debra Ann Schumer; Debra Jeske; Donna Medlin; Elaine Beulick; Elana Galassi; Elise Webster; Elizabeth Patton; Elizabeth Plummer; Emily Adams, Ms, Rd, Ld; Emily Arras; Emily Johnson; Emma L Wicks; Erin McGraw; Eris Rolves; Eva McCormick; Heather

Kostelnick; Hilary Shoemake; Holly Bruemmer; Jacqueline Henderson; Jade Caldwell; Jaime Gnau Ms, Rdn, Ld, Ches; Jamie Daugherty; Jenifer; Jenna Laubert Rd Ld; Jennifer Becker; Jennifer Dianna Bean; Jennifer Hopwood; Jeremy Housekeeper; Jessica Stern; Joel Ramdial; Josephine Buckley; Judy Milliano; Julie Kempaiah; Justa Davis; Kaitlynne Kendall; Karen Derrick; Karen Derrick, University Of Missouri Health Care; Karen Donelson, Ms, Rd, Ld; Karen Stephens, Ms,Rdn,Csp,Ld; Karen Wingert; Katelyn Ryder; Katherine Foody; Kathleen Reilly, Saint Louis University; Kathleen Stockmann, Ms, Rd, Cso, Cctd, Ld; Kathryn Cameron; Kathy Gardner; Katrina Dunn; Kayley Myers; Kelsey Gibson; Keri L Dougless; Kevin Reed; Kristen Nickels, Ms, Rdn, Ld; Kristin Eiffert, Phd Rd Ld; Kurstin Koch, Ms, Rd, Ld; Laura A Weber, Msed, Rd, Ld, Ibcllc; Laura Vollink; Lauren Gallen; Laurie Berger; Leah Brooke, Ms, Rdn, Ld; Leah Knight; Leanne Timpone; Lindsay Sparks; Lindsey Fox; Lisa Akers-Smith; Lisa Ziliak Ms,Rd,Ld; Lynn Eaton; Madeline Puto; Marcie Jo Barnes; Mariah Singler; Marielle Counts; Marsha Flowers; Mary Beindorff; Mary Beth Ohlms, Med, Rdn, Ld; Mary Hagerty; Mary Puetz; Matthew Christopher Bertoldie; Melinda Ridenhour; Melissa Adamson; Melissa Coker; Mesha Cowan; Mikayla Mctigue; Molly Marie Diehl; Nancy Brody; Naomi M Ward; Natalie Allen; Nicholas C Breakfield; Nicholas Zoppina; Nicole Koetting; Paris Doty; Prajakta Khare; Rachel Hughes, Ssm Health - St Marys Hospital; Rachel Pankau, Mph, Rdn, Ld- Clinical Dietitian Wi; Rhonda Jo Orrell; Rita L Thackeray; Sara Kostelnick, Rd, Ld, Acsm-Cpt; Sarah Hampl, Md; Sarah Karr Rd, Ld; Sarah Marie Fischer; Sarah Montgomery; Sarah Murray; Sarah Waterman, Rdn, Ld; Selena Saulsbery; Sheila Chapman Ms,Rd,Csp,Ld At Umhc; Stacey Brouk; Stephanie Henson; Stephanie Urich; Susan R Wright; Teresa J Merau; Tim Plutino; Valerie Rath; Virginia Pearson; Wayne Akers; Wendy Castle; Zachary Taylor; Danielle Pliskow; Yalaka Huyette; Sara Hussman; Elizabeth Freeman; Emily Rudolph; Ginger Meyer; Kaylan Goldstein; Michelle Townsend; Ron Luth; Shannon Ebron; Shawn Plummer; Diana Grubb; Laura Harms; Laura Rende, Bamboo Nutrition Llc; Brittany Mericle; Heather Verble; Janice M Long-Connelly; Carrie Weatherholt; Joshua Yakovitz; Kalli Castille; Kelly Bristow; Lindsey Gelber; Randy Scherr, Missouri Academy Of Nutrition And Dietetics; Reed Geisler; Shelly Summar; Stefanie Vermette; Whitney Cimino, Mha, Rd, Ld; William Saulsbery; Heidi Knuckles; Kerri Lee; Michael Allen; Angela Jacobs; Deborah Lee; Rebecca Mcconville; Stacy Ruter Covey; Alix Shantz; Barbara Mcdermott; Cassie Mcallister; Chantel McGrath; Helen Halley; Isabelle Bouchard; Jaunine Viles; Jo Ellen Weatherholt; Kim Matwiejow; Shane Weatherholt; Jean Howard; Kyle Michael Reed; Lissane Kafie; and Kerri Lee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill submitted written testimony.

Testifying on the bill were Amanda Bratton; and Donna Joann Elliott.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.