

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SHB 2448

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Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Concerning the practice of certain East Asian medicine therapies.

**Sponsors:** House Committee on Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Robinson, Harris and Stanford).

**House Committee on Health Care & Wellness**  
**Senate Committee on Health Care**

**Background:**

East Asian Medicine.

"East Asian medicine" is a health care service utilizing East Asian medicine diagnosis and treatment to promote health and treat organic or functional disorders, including point injection therapy (acuapuncture). Point injection therapy is not defined in statute or rule, but generally is the injection of substances into acupuncture points to prevent or treat diseases.

Legend Drugs.

It is unlawful to sell, deliver, or possess any legend drug except upon the order or prescription of specified health care professionals; however there is an exemption for a practitioner acting within the scope of his or her license.

"Legend drugs" are defined as drugs which are required by state law or rule of the Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission (PQAC) to be dispensed on prescription only or are restricted to use by practitioners only. The PQAC determines which drugs are classified as legend drugs; the drugs must be designated under federal law and listed as legend drugs in the 2009 edition of the *Drug Topics Red Book*.

**Summary:**

Point injection therapy includes injection of substances, limited to saline, sterile water, herbs, minerals, vitamins in liquid form, and homeopathic and nutritional substances, consistent with the practice of East Asian medicine and does not include injection of controlled substances or steroids. The Department of Health, in consultation with the East Asian

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

Medicine Advisory Committee, must define point injection therapy in rule and adopt rules regarding substances administered as part of point injection therapy consistent with the practice of East Asian medicine.

East Asian medicine practitioners are added to the definition of "practitioner" for purposes of the Legend Drug Act.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

House	96	2
Senate	47	1

**Effective:** June 9, 2016