

*NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION OF* 3  
*THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006-2010)*

*REPORT OF*  
*THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE*  
*OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY*

*ON THE*  
*ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL 2009*  
*BILL NO. 15 OF 2009*

*PRESENTED TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY*

*BY*  
*THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE*

*ON*

*8<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 2010.*

**REPORT OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE OF  
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON THE  
ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL 2009 – BILL NO. 15 OF 2009**

**1. Publication and First Reading**

The Allied Health Professions Bill 2009, (Bill No. 15 of 2009) which seeks to provide for the registration of members of allied health professions supplementary to the medical profession, regulation of practice of allied health professions and allied health services, to provide for maintenance of provisions for training of members of those professions and services and for related purposes was published on the 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2009.

**2. Introduction and First Reading**

The Bill was introduced in the National Assembly and read for the first time on 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2009.

**3. Committal to Select Committee**

Following its first reading, the Bill was committed by the National Assembly for consideration by a Special Select Committee on 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2009.

**4. Members of the Special Select Committee**

At a meeting held on Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009, the Committee of Selection nominated the following Members to comprise the Special Select Committee, to consider the Allied Health Professions Bill 2009:

**Members of the People’s Progressive Party/Civic (PPP/C) (6)**

The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R. A. Westford, M.P.

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shury, C.C.H., J.P., M.P

Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P.

Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P.

**Members of the People’s National Congress Reform – 1 Guyana (PNC/R-IG) (3)**

Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P.

Dr. George A Norton, M.P.

Dr. John Austin, M.P.

**Member of the Alliance For Change (AFC)(1)**

Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

**5. First Meeting of the Committee – Election of Chairman**

At its first meeting held on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2009, the Committee elected the Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P., Minister of Health, as Chairman of the Special Select Committee.

**6. Statutory Meeting**

At the second meeting held on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2009, the Committee agreed to meet on Wednesdays at 3.00 pm, with a minimum of two hours deliberations.

## **7. Other Meetings of the Committee**

The Committee met on 8 other occasions.

See Appendix I

## **8. Consultation Process**

At the second meeting, the Committee agreed on the methodology to be used in the consideration of the Bill. It was agreed that:-

- (i) in keeping within its mandate, the Committee would establish a process whereby members of the public would be able to comment on the Bill;
- (ii) the Allied Health Professions Bill would be made available to the members of the public via the Parliament Office and Ministry of Health websites;
- (iii) in order to obtain widest consultations on the Bill, invitations would be posted in the print media inviting members of the public to make both written or oral presentations before the Committee;
- (iv) letters would be sent to specific professional groups and individuals inviting them to make submissions on the Bill; and
- (v) the Bill would be considered clause by clause;

In this regard, advertisements were placed in the media on the following dates: Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2009, Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2009 and Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2009, extending invitation to members of the public (individual/s and organizations) to submit written and oral presentations to the Committee not later than 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2009.

Specific letters were also sent to the following fourteen (14) Professional Organizations/Agencies inviting them to make oral and/or written submissions on the Bill:-

- The Guyana Nursing Council
- The Nursing Association
- The Medical Council
- The Medical Association
- The Steering Committee for the Reconstitution of the Medical Association
- The Pharmacy Council
- The Pharmacy Association
- The Dental Council of Guyana
- The Dental Association
- The Berbice Medical Association
- The Guyana Association of Optometrist
- The Guyana Association of Laboratories
- The Guyana association of Alternative Medicine
- The Guyana Association of Medical Imaging Practitioners.

See Appendix II for specimen of advertisement in the print media and letter to the specific organizations/individuals.

## 9. Response to Invitations

The Committee received a total of six (6) written submissions and all six organizations/agencies/individuals were invited to make oral presentations.

The Committee scheduled Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2009 for oral presentations. In addition, based on a request made by the Guyana Association of Optometrists, the Committee invited them to make a second oral presentation on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2010.

## 10. Hearings

The oral presentations were held as follows on Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2009:-

- The Guyana Nursing Council - 3.10 p.m
- The Guyana Physiotherapy Association - 3.25p.m
- The Medical Technologist Association - 3.40p.m
- Certified Professional Counselor,  
Negotiator and Mediator - 3.55p.m
- The Guyana Association for Alternative Medicine - 4.10p.m
- The Guyana Association of Optometrist - 4.30p.m.

The Guyana Association of Optometrists re-appeared before the Committee to give an oral presentation on the 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2010, at 3.30p.m.

**11. Withdrawal of the People’s National Congress Reform – 1 Guyana (PNCR-1G) from Meetings of the Committee.**

At the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2009, the People’s National Congress Reform – 1 Guyana (PNCR-1G), by way of a Memorandum which was read by Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P., withdrew their attendance from the meeting and asked to be excused from further meetings of the Committee.

Thereafter, the Memorandum with the proposed amendments made to the Bill by the PNCR -1G was submitted to the Chairman and Members of the Committee for consideration during the Clause by Clause deliberation of the Bill.

See Appendix III for Memorandum with proposed amendments to the Bill by the PNCR-1G.

**12. Review of Recommendations from Consultation/Hearings**

Following the consultation/hearings the Committee met on the 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2009, and discussed the merits and practicality of the recommendations made by the stakeholders.

**13. Consideration of the Bill**

At its 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2009, the Committee considered the short title, clauses and preamble of the Bill in collaboration with the proposed amendments made by the PNCR-IG.

The following clauses were amended by the Committee:-

*1, 2,4,7,22,25,28,31 and 33.*

The following clauses were unaltered:-

*3,5,6,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,23,24,26,27,29,30,32,34,35,36 and 37.*

At its 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Meetings held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2010, the Committee considered the Schedules and Explanatory Memorandum of the Bill.

The matrix of the First Schedule, heading and sub-headings were amended; item 2 was amended; a new item 12 was inserted and items 12 to 14 were re-numbered as items 13 to 15.

The following items in the matrix of the First Schedule were unaltered:-

*Items:1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13, 14 and 15.*

Forms 2, 3 and 4 in the Second Schedule were amended.

The details of the amendments made to the Bill by the Committee are attached at Appendix IV.

#### **14. Report of the Special Select Committee**

At its meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2010, the Special Select Committee on the Allied Health Professions Bill 2009 agreed that this Report on its consideration of the Bill should be presented to the National Assembly.

The Report is accordingly hereby submitted.



**15. Appended Bill**

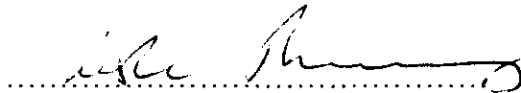
Appendix VI is the amended Bill which reflects the changes detailed and outlined in Appendix IV.

**16. Minutes**

The Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee are appended at Appendix V.

**17. Verbatim Records**

Verbatim Records of the Proceedings of the Committee have been prepared and are available at the Parliament Office.



*Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.,  
Minister of Health,  
Chairman.*

Committees Division  
Parliament Office  
Public Buildings  
Brickdam,  
Georgetown.

1<sup>st</sup> April, 2010.

Appendix I:

**SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSION BILL**

**ATTENDANCE RECORD (2009-2010)**

NAME	June		July	Aug	Oct.	Nov.	Jan.		Feb.	Mar.
	1 <sup>st</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	27 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	31 <sup>st</sup>
The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.
The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P.	Ex.	Pr.	Abs.	Ex.	Abs.	Pr.	Abs.	Abs.	Pr.	Pr.
The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Abs.	Pr.	Pr.	Ex.	Ex.	Abs.
Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shury, C.C.H., J.P., M.P.	Pr.	Ex.	Pr.	Ex.	Pr.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.
Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P.,	Pr.	Pr.	Abs.	Pr.	Abs.	Ex.	Pr.	Pr.	Ex.	Abs.
Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P.	Ex.	Pr.	Pr.	Ex.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.
Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Abs.	Pr.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.
Dr. George A. Norton, M.P.	Abs.	Pr.	Pr.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.
Dr. John Austin, M.P.	Pr.	Abs.	Pr.	Abs.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.	Ex.
Mrs. Shelia Holder, M.P.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Ex.	Ex.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Pr.	Ex.

Pr. - Present  
 Abs. - Absent  
 Ex. - Excused

*Committees Division  
 Parliament Office  
 Public Buildings  
 Georgetown*

*1<sup>st</sup> April, 2010*

## Appendix II:

# PARLIAMENT OFFICE

## **ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL – BILL NO. 15 OF 2009 INVITATION TO THE PUBLIC FOR WRITTEN SUBMISSION**

The Allied Health Professions Bill 2009 – No. 15 of 2009 has been committed to a Special Select Committee of the National Assembly. This Bill seeks to provide for registration of members of allied health professions supplementary to the medical profession, regulation of practice of allied health professions and allied health services, to provide for maintenance of professional standards for allied health professions and health services and to make provisions for training of members of those professions and services and for related purposes.

The Committee has began its work, but wishes to receive from members of the public, professional individuals, and organizations, their views on the Allied Health Professions Bill.

The Committee is, therefore, extending an invitation to members of the public, to forward written submissions of their views on this matter not later than Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2009.

Copies of the Bill can be obtained from the Parliament Office, Public Buildings, Brickdam or via the Parliament Office Web site: [www.parliament.gov.gy](http://www.parliament.gov.gy) or the Ministry of Health Web site: [www.health.gov.gy](http://www.health.gov.gy)

Individuals and organizations who are willing to appear before the Committee to give oral evidence should indicate this in their submissions.

All written submissions and request to make oral evidence can be sent to [committees\\_division@yahoo.com](mailto:committees_division@yahoo.com) or must be addressed to:

The Clerk of Committee  
Special Select Committee on the National Assembly  
(Allied Health Professions Bill 2009 – Bill No. 15 of 2009)  
Committees Division  
Parliament Office  
Public Buildings  
Georgetown

Mr. Sherlock Isaacs  
Clerk of the National Assembly  
21<sup>st</sup> June, 2009.



Tel: 226- 8456-9  
24<sup>th</sup> June, 2009.

Parliament Office,  
Public Buildings,  
Brickdam,  
Georgetown,  
Guyana.

Mr. Nolan Hawke,  
Guyana Association of Medical Laboratorians,  
St. Joseph Mercy Hospital.

Dear Mr. Hawke,

**Allied Health Professions Bill-(Bill No. 15 of 2009)**

The Allied Health Professions Bill 2009 (Bill No. 15 of 2009) has been committed to a Special Select Committee of the National Assembly. This Bill seeks to provide for registration of members of allied health professions and allied health services, to provide for maintenance of professional standards for allied health professions and health services and to make provisions for training of members of those professions and services and for related purposes.

The Committee has begun its work but wishes to receive from members of the public, individuals, as well as organizations their views on the Allied Health Professions Bill.

The Committee is, therefore, extending an invitation to your institution to forward written submissions of your views on this matter not later than 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2009.

If you are willing to appear before the Committee to give oral evidence you should indicate this in your submission.

Your submission must be addressed to:

**The Clerk of the Committee  
Special Select Committee on Allied Health Profession Bill  
(Bill No. 15 of 2009)  
Committees Division  
Parliament Office  
Public Buildings,  
Georgetown.**

Yours sincerely,

**Debra Cadogan  
Head of Committees Division (ag.)  
For Clerk of the National Assembly**

## Appendix III:

### **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** The Chairperson and members of the Allied Health Professions Bill Select Committee.

**FROM:** The PNCR - 1G members of the Allied Health Professions Bill Select Committee.

**DATE:** 21st October, 2009.

**SUBJECT:** Submission of suggested amendments to the Allied Health Professions Bill - Bill No. 15 of 2009.

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The PNCR- 1G pays great importance to the Allied Health Professions Bill. Bill No. 15 of 2009.

However, given the revelations during the trial of Mr. Robert Simmels in the United States of America the PNCR - 1G as a matter of principle has determined that it will not attend any meetings of the Allied Health Professions Bill Select Committee that are chaired by the Minister of Health Dr. Leslie Ramsammy.

In the circumstances the PNCR - 1G members of the Select Committee namely Mrs. Deborah Backer; Dr. George Norton and Dr. John Austin respectfully ask to be excused from all further meetings of the Committee chaired by Dr. Leslie Ramsammy.

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS**

1. Clause 4(1) (d)

To be amended to permit consumer organizations to submit a list to the Minister of not more than four persons from which the Minister appoints two.

2. Clause 6

Sub-clauses 6(1) (b) and 6(1) (c) to be deleted.

3. Clause 7

To be deleted. There is no need for this clause given clause 8(1)

4. Clause 10

10(b) should be deleted and replaced by the words "is or has been, convicted of an indictable offence".

5. Clause 27

Renumber clause 27 as 27 (1) and insert as 27 (2) a provision that any person dissatisfied with the Minister's decision may appeal to the High Court of the Supreme Court of Judicature.

6. Clause 28

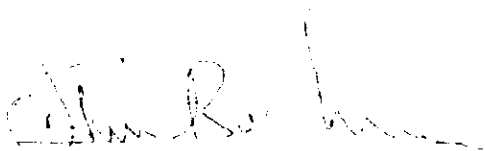
The fines imposed are too high and should be reduced.

7. Clause 29

The fines imposed are too high and should be reduced.

8. Clause 36

This clause gives the Minister an unfettered discretion. It is proposed that this discretion should be exercised after meaningful consultation with the Council.



DEBORAH BACKER-MPT~  
MEMBER,  
Allied Health Professions Bill  
Select Committee

# Appendix IV:

**SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL – BILL NO. 15 OF 2009**

**Amendments approved by the Committee**

Clauses	Clauses of Present Bill	Amendments to Clauses, New Clauses etc.
Arrangement of Sections	<p>Chapter 1 Preliminary</p> <p>Section 1 Short title</p> <p>Section</p>	<p>Short title <b>and commencement</b></p> <p><b>2. Interpretation.</b></p> <p><b>Arrangement of sections</b> was then <b>accepted as amended.</b></p>
Clause 1	This Act may be cited as the Allied Health Professions Act 2009.	<p>This Act may be cited as the Allied Health Professions Act <b>2010 and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may by order appoint.</b></p> <p><b>Clause 1</b> was then <b>accepted as amended.</b></p>
Clause 2	<p>2. In this Act-</p> <p>(a) "Council" means the Allied Health Professions Council established under section 3;</p>	<p>The following paragraphs were re-arranged in alphabetical order.</p> <p><b>2. In this Act-</b></p> <p><b>(a) "allied health profession" means any profession specified in the First Schedule;</b></p>



	<p>(b) “Minister” means the Minister responsible for Health;</p> <p>(c) “allied health professional” means a person whose name appears on the Register and is for the time being allowed to practice as such;</p> <p>(d) “allied health profession” means any profession specified in the First Schedule;</p> <p>(e) “allied health services” means such services as are performed by members of an allied health profession specified in the First Schedule;</p> <p>(f) “prescribed” means prescribed by regulations made by the Council with the approval of the Minister;</p> <p>(g) “Register” means the Register of Allied Health Professionals kept and maintained by the Council under section 17 (2);</p> <p>(h) “Secretary” means the person for the time being performing the functions of</p>	<p><b>(b) “allied health professional” means a person whose name appears on the Register and is for the time being allowed to practise as such;</b></p> <p><b>(c) “allied health services” means such services as are performed by members of an allied health profession specified in the First Schedule;</b></p> <p><b>(d) “Council” means the Allied Health Professions Council established under section 3;</b></p> <p><b>(e) “Minister” means the Minister responsible for Health;</b></p> <p><b>(f) “prescribed” means prescribed by regulations made by the Council with the approval of the Minister;</b></p> <p><b>(g) “Register” means the Register of Allied Health Professionals kept and maintained by the Council under section 17 (2);</b></p> <p><b>(h) “Secretary” means the person for the time being performing the functions of</b></p>
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	Secretary to the Council.	<b>Secretary to the Council.</b>  <b>Clause 2 was then accepted as amended.</b>
Clause 3	(Unaltered)	
Clause 4	<p><b>4.</b> (1) The Council shall consist of the following eleven members, namely-</p> <p>(a) the Chief Medical Officer who shall be an <i>ex officio</i> member of the Council;</p> <p>(b) two allied health professionals from among the allied health professions listed in the First Schedule appointed by the Minister;</p> <p>(c) six members, being allied health professionals, appointed by the Minister on the recommendation of organisations representing allied health professions listed in the First Schedule;</p> <p>(d) two persons from among consumer organisations who are not allied health professionals appointed by the Minister.</p> <p>(2) Where a sufficient number of persons representing organisations referred to in</p>	<p>4.(1) The Council shall consist of the following eleven members, namely-</p> <p>(a) the Chief Medical Officer who shall be an <i>ex officio</i> member of the Council;</p> <p>(b) two allied health professionals from among the allied health professions listed in the First Schedule appointed by the Minister;</p> <p>(c) six members, being allied health professionals, appointed by the Minister on the recommendation of organisations representing allied health professions listed in the First Schedule;</p> <p>(d) two persons from among consumer organisations who are not allied health professionals appointed by the Minister <b>after consultation with the organisations.</b></p> <p>(2) Where a sufficient number of persons representing organisations referred to in</p>

	subsection (1) (c) are not available for appointment, the Minister shall appoint any health professional instead	subsection (1) (c) are not available for appointment, the Minister shall appoint any health professional instead.  <b>Clause 4 was then accepted as amended.</b>
Clause 5	(Unaltered)	
Clause 6	(Unaltered)	
Clause 7 Marginal Notes	Chairperson of Council  7. The Minister may nominate a member of the Council to act as the Chairperson of the first constituted Council initially for a period of two years.	Chairperson <b>and Deputy Chairperson</b> of Council  7. The Minister may nominate a member of the Council to act as the Chairperson <b>and another member as the Deputy Chairperson</b> of the first constituted Council, initially for a period of two years.  <b>Clause 7 was then accepted as amended.</b>
Clause 8	(Unaltered)	
Clause 9	(Unaltered)	
Clause 10	(Unaltered)	
Clause 11	(Unaltered)	
Clause 12	(Unaltered)	
Clause 13	(Unaltered)	

Clause 14	(Unaltered)	
Clause 15	(Unaltered)	
Clause 16	(Unaltered)	
Clause 17	(Unaltered)	
Clause 18	(Unaltered)	
Clause 19	(Unaltered)	
Clause 20	(Unaltered)	
Clause 21	(Unaltered)	
Clause 22	<p><b>22.</b> In any proceeding under section 21, if the Council is satisfied that the allied health professional has committed an offence or is guilty of professional misconduct or malpractice and it is expedient and in the interest of public health to take appropriate action, it may –</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) censure him;  (b) suspend his licence to practice for a period of time to be determined by the Council but not less than one year; or</p>	<p><b>22.</b> In any proceeding under section 21, if the Council is satisfied that the allied health professional has committed an offence or is guilty of professional misconduct or malpractice and it is expedient and in the interest of public health to take appropriate action, it may –</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) censure him;  (b) suspend his licence to practice for a period of time to be determined by the Council but not less than one year; or  (c) remove his name from</p>

	<p>(c) remove his name from the Register for a period to be determined by the Council but not less than one year,</p> <p>in addition to any fine that may be imposed on him:</p> <p>Provided that the allied health professional shall be afforded an opportunity of being heard before any action is taken against him.</p>	<p>the Register for a period to be determined by the Council but not less than one year,</p> <p>in addition to any <b>other punishment</b> that may be imposed on him:</p> <p>Provided that the allied health professional shall be afforded an opportunity of being heard before any action is taken against him.</p> <p><b>Clause 22 was then accepted as amended.</b></p>
Clause 23	(Unaltered)	
Clause 24	(Unaltered)	
Clause 25	<p><b>25.</b> (1) An allied health professional whose name has been removed from the Register under section 22 may apply for restoration of his name in the Register after the expiration of one year from the date of the removal and on such condition as may be imposed by the Council.</p> <p>(2) An application for restoration shall be treated as an application under section 14 or 15, as the case may be, and the provisions of sections 16 and 17 shall</p>	<p><b>25.</b> (1) An allied health professional whose name has been removed from the Register under section 22 may apply for restoration of his name in the Register after the expiration of one year from the date of the removal and on such <b>condition</b> as may be imposed by the Council.</p> <p>(2) An application for restoration shall be treated as an application under section 14 or 15, as the case may be, and the provisions of sections 16 and 17 shall</p>

	<p>apply in relation to the restoration.</p> <p>(3) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the Council may, at any time on its own motion for reasons recorded in writing, restore the name to the Register removed under section 22.</p>	<p>apply in relation to the restoration.</p> <p>(3) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the Council may, at any time on its own motion for reasons recorded in writing, restore the name to the Register removed under section 22.</p> <p><b>Clause 25 was then accepted as amended.</b></p>
Clause 26	(Unaltered)	
Clause 27	(Unaltered)	
Clause 28	<p>1) Any person-</p> <p>(a) who practices an allied health profession and allied health service mentioned in the First Schedule without the certificate of registration and annual licence under this Act intentionally or recklessly-</p> <p>(i) uses any name, title or other description implying or calculated to imply that he is recognised by law to practise any health profession and health service;</p> <p>(ii) assumes or uses any suffix or prefix to his name indicative of any occupational designation relating to the practice of any allied health profession and allied health</p>	<p>1) Any person-</p> <p>(a) who practices an allied health profession and allied health service mentioned in the First Schedule without the certificate of registration and annual licence under this Act intentionally or recklessly-</p> <p>(i) uses any name, title or other description implying or calculated to imply that he is recognised by law to practise any <b>allied</b> health profession and <b>allied</b> health service;</p> <p>(ii) assumes or uses any suffix or prefix to his name indicative of any occupational designation relating to the practice of any allied health profession and allied health</p>

	<p>service;</p> <p>(iii) advertises or holds himself out as a person authorised or qualified to practise any allied health profession and allied health service;</p> <p>(iv) engages in the practice of any allied health profession and allied health service;</p> <p>(v) claims to be registered under this Act or holds himself out as being registered under this Act;</p> <p>(vi) claims to be licensed to practice any health profession in any health service;</p> <p>(vii) carries out any act which is required to be carried out by a registered allied health professional by or under this Act; or</p> <p>(b) who fails to display his certificate of registration and licence which he is required to display under this Act,</p> <p>shall be guilty of an offence and be liable on summary conviction, in the case of a first offence, to a fine of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars and imprisonment for nine months, and in the case of every continuing offence, to an additional fine which may extend to five hundred</p>	<p>service;</p> <p>(iii) advertises or holds himself out as a person authorised or qualified to practise any allied health profession and allied health service;</p> <p>(iv) engages in the practice of any allied health profession and allied health service;</p> <p>(v) claims to be registered under this Act or holds himself out as being registered under this Act;</p> <p>(vi) claims to be licensed to practice any <b>allied</b> health profession in any <b>allied</b> health service;</p> <p>(vii) carries out any act which is required to be carried out by a registered allied health professional by or under this Act; or</p> <p>(b) who fails to display his certificate of registration and licence which he is required to display under this Act,</p> <p><b>commits</b> an offence and is liable on summary conviction, in the case of a first offence, to a fine of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars and imprisonment for nine months, and in the case of every continuing offence, to an additional fine of <b>twenty</b> five thousand dollars <b>for every day</b></p>
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	thousand dollars on every occasion and to imprisonment for twelve months.	<b>on which the offence continues after conviction.</b>  <b>Clause 28 was then accepted as amended.</b>
Clause 29	<b>29.</b> Whoever, in any case in which a penalty is not expressly provided by this Act, fails to comply with any notice, order, direction or requisition issued under any provision of this Act or otherwise contravenes any of the provisions of this Act, shall be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine of fifty thousand dollars, and, in the case of every continuing failure or contravention to an additional fine of one hundred thousand dollars on every occasion.	<b>29.</b> Whoever, in any case in which a penalty is not expressly provided by this Act, fails to comply with any notice, order, direction or requisition issued under any provision of this Act or otherwise contravenes any of the provisions of this Act, shall be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine of fifty thousand dollars, and, in the case of every continuing <b>offence</b> , to an additional fine of <b>ten thousand dollars for every day on which the offence continues after conviction.</b>  <b>Clause 29 was then accepted as amended.</b>
Clause 30	(Unaltered)	
Clause 31 Marginal Notes	Fine for failure to obtain registration certificate  <b>31.</b> A court trying an offence under section 29 shall impose on the person a fine of ten thousand dollars for each day of failure to obtain a certificate of registration or annual licence in addition to any other punishment provided under this Act and shall order that the amount of fine be paid to the Council.	<b>Fines to be paid to Council.</b>  <b>31.</b> A court trying an offence under section <b>28 or 29</b> shall order that the amount of fine be paid to the Council.



		<b>Clause 31 was then accepted as amended.</b>
Clause 32	(Unaltered)	
Clause 33	<p>33.Nothing is this Act shall prevent the performance of any allied health service in any allied health profession by a person in training if those services are performed under the direct supervision and control of</p> <p>(a) an allied health professional registered in the relevant allied health profession and allied health service;</p> <p>(b) a medical practitioner under the Medical Practitioners Act;</p> <p>(c) a dental practitioner under the Dental Registration Act;</p>	<p><b>33.</b> Nothing is this Act shall prevent the performance of any allied health service in any allied health profession by a person in training if those services are performed under the direct supervision and control of</p> <p>(a) an allied health professional registered in the relevant allied health profession and allied health service;</p> <p>(b) a medical practitioner under the Medical Practitioners Act <b>1991</b>;</p> <p>(c) a dental practitioner under the Dental Registration Act <b>1996</b>.</p> <p><b>(d) a medex under the Medex Act 1978. No. 19 of 1978. (in the margin)</b></p> <p><b>Clause 33 was then accepted as amended</b></p>
Clause 34	(Unaltered)	
Clause 35	(Unaltered)	
Clause 36	(Unaltered)	
Clause 37	(Unaltered)	

**Matrix - Amendments approved by the Committee to the Schedules**

**(ORIGINAL)**

**(AMENDED)**

<b>(ORIGINAL)</b>		<b>(AMENDED)</b>	
<p><b>First Schedule</b></p> <p>Main Heading:</p> <p>Sub-heading in first column</p> <p>Sub-heading in second column</p>	<p>HEALTH PROFESSIONS AND HEALTH SERVICES</p> <p>Health Profession</p> <p>Health profession and health services</p>	<p><b>ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS AND ALLIED HEALTH SERVICES</b></p> <p><b>Allied Health Profession</b></p> <p><b>Allied Health profession and Allied Health Services</b></p> <p><b>The above were then accepted as amended.</b></p>	
<p>I. Acupuncture Therapy</p>	<p>The practice of acupuncture therapy is the stimulation of "acu-points" (points on or near the surface of the body) by the insertion of needles to prevent or modify the perception of pain or to normalize physiological functions, including pain control for the treatment of certain diseases or dysfunctions of the body, and</p>	<p>(Unaltered)</p>	

<p>Acupuncturist</p>	<p>includes the techniques of electro-acupuncture, cupping and moxibustion.</p> <p>In the course of engaging in the practice of acupuncture therapy as an <b>acupuncturist</b> a person may, subject to terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of registration, perform or prescribe the use of oriental massage, acupuncture, moxibustion, breathing technique, exercise or nutrition, including the incorporation of drugless substances and herbs as dietary supplements to promote health.</p>		
<p>2. Audiology and Speech Language Pathology</p> <p>(a) Audiologist</p>	<p>The practice of audiology means the practice of conducting measurement, testing and evaluation relating to hearing and vestibular systems, including audiologic and electrophysiological measures, and conducting programs of identification, hearing conservation, habilitation and rehabilitation for the purpose of identifying disorders related to hearing loss, including but not limited to vestibular evaluation,</p>	<p>2. Audiology and Speech Language Pathology</p> <p>(a) Audiologist</p>	<p>The practice of audiology means the practice of conducting measurement, testing and evaluation relating to hearing and vestibular systems, including audiologic and electrophysiological measures, and conducting programs of identification, hearing conservation, habilitation and rehabilitation for the purpose of identifying disorders related to hearing loss, including but not limited to vestibular evaluation, electrophysiological audiometry and cochlear implants. The practice includes the treatment and prevention of auditory dysfunction and to develop, maintain, rehabilitate or augment auditory and communicative functions. Any</p>

<p>(b) Speech Language Pathologist</p>	<p>electrophysiological audiometry and cochlear implants. The practice includes the treatment and prevention of auditory dysfunction and to develop, maintain, rehabilitate or augment auditory and communicative functions. Any person offering the above services is an audiologist and subject to terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of registration, perform the functions outlined above.</p> <p>The practice of speech language pathology means the practice of facilitating development and maintenance of human communication through programs of screening, identifying, assessing and interpreting, diagnosing, habilitating and rehabilitating speech</p>	<p><b>(b) Audiological Practitioner</b></p> <p><b>(c) Speech Language Pathologist</b></p>	<p>person offering the above services is an audiologist and subject to terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of registration, perform the functions outlined above.</p> <p><b>Audiological Practitioner conducts hearing test, hearing aid evaluation and performs fitting of hearing aid. They perform these functions under the supervision of a qualified Audiologist or Audiological Physician.</b></p> <p>The practice of speech language pathology means the practice of facilitating development and maintenance of human communication through programs of screening, identifying, assessing and interpreting, diagnosing, habilitating and rehabilitating speech language disorders, including but not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Providing alternative communication systems and instruction and training in the use thereof</li> <li>2. Providing aural habilitation, rehabilitation and counseling services to hearing impaired individuals and their families</li> </ol>
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			<p>3. Enhancing speech-language proficiency and communication effectiveness</p> <p>4. Providing audiologic screening</p> <p>Any person offering the above services is a <b><u>Speech Language Pathologist</u></b> and subject to terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of registration, can perform the functions above.</p> <p><b>Allied Health Profession 2 was then accepted as amended.</b></p>
<p>3. Chiropody and Podiatry</p> <p>(a) Chiropodist</p>	<p>The practice of chiropody and podiatry is the assessment of the foot, lower limbs and ankle and the treatment and prevention of disease, disorders or dysfunctions of the foot and ankle.</p> <p>In the course of engaging in the practice of chiropody as a <b>chiropodist</b> a person may, subject to the terms, conditions, and limitations imposed on his certificate of registration, perform the following:</p> <p>(i) Assessment and treatment of common foot complaints such as verrucae, corns and calluses</p>	<p>(Unaltered)</p>	

(b) Podiatrist	<p>(ii) Assessment of the structure, alignment and function of the feet and legs with appropriate treatment such as insoles, stretching and strengthening exercises to correct any abnormality</p> <p>(iii) Nail surgery, using local anaesthetics, to remove ingrown toenails</p> <p>(iv) Management of patients at high risk of foot problems such as diabetes, rheumatoid, arthritis and peripheral vascular diseases</p> <p>(v) Advice on prevention of foot problems and how to keep feet in good health</p> <p>In the course of engaging in the practice of podiatry as a <b>podiatrist</b> a person may, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of registration, perform the following:</p> <p>(i) Communicate a diagnosis identifying a disease or disorder of the foot and ankle as the cause of the</p>		
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	<p>person's symptoms</p> <p>(ii) Assessment and treatment of common foot complaints such as verrucae, corns and calluses</p> <p>(iii) Assessment of the structure, alignment and function of the feet and legs with appropriate treatment such as insoles, stretching and strengthening exercises to correct any abnormality</p> <p>(iv) Nail surgery, using local anaesthetics, to remove ingrown toenails</p> <p>(v) Management of patients at high risk of foot problems such as diabetes, rheumatoid, arthritis and peripheral vascular diseases</p> <p>(vi) Advice on prevention of foot problems and how to keep feet in good health</p>		
4. Chiropractic Therapy	<p>The practice of chiropractic is the assessment of conditions related to the spine, nervous system and joints and the diagnosis, prevention and treatment, primarily by adjustment of these structures. Such conditions include:</p>	(Unaltered)	

<p>Chiropractor</p>	<p>(a) Dysfunctions or disorders arising from the structure or functions of the spine and the effects of those dysfunctions or disorders on the nervous system and</p> <p>(b) Dysfunctions or disorders arising from the structures and functions of the joints.</p> <p>In the course of engaging in the practice of <b>chiropractor</b> a person may, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, perform the following:</p> <p>(i) Communicating a diagnosis identifying, as the cause of the person's symptoms –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A disorder arising from the structures and functions of the spine and their effects on the nervous system or</li> <li>• A disorder arising from the structures and functions of the joints of the extremities</li> </ul> <p>(ii) Moving the joints of the spine</p>		
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	<p>beyond a person's normal usual physiological range of motion using a fast, low amplitude thrust.</p> <p>(iii) Putting a finger beyond the anal verge for the purpose of manipulating the coccyx.</p>		
<p>5. Clinical Psychology</p> <p>Clinical Psychologist</p>	<p>The practice of psychology is the assessment of behavioral and mental conditions, the diagnosis of neuropsychological disorders and dysfunctions and the maintenance and enhancement of physical, intellectual, emotional, social and interpersonal functioning.</p> <p>In the course of engaging in the practice of clinical psychology as a <b>clinical psychologist</b> a person may, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, communicate a diagnosis identifying, as the cause of the person's symptoms, a neuropsychological disorder or dysfunction, a psychosis, a neurosis, a personality disorder or dysfunction or a behavioural, mental or developmental disorder, but does not include the prescription of drugs.</p>	(Unaltered)	

6. Dietetics	<p>The practice of dietetics is the assessment of nutrition and nutritional conditions and the prevention and treatment of nutrition-related disorders by nutritional means.</p>	(Unaltered)	
(a) Dietitian or Nutritionist	<p>In the course of engaging in the practice of dietetics as a dietitian or a <b>nutritionist</b> a person may, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, perform the following:</p> <p>(i) Planning and regulating feeding according to nutritional needs and principles and</p> <p>(ii) The prevention and treatment of nutrition-related disorders by nutritional means.</p>		
(b) Dietary Technician	<p>In the course of engaging in the practice of dietetics as a <b>dietary technician</b> a person may, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, engage in the history taking and reviewing of nutritional practices under the direct supervision of a dietitian or a nutritionist.</p>		

<p>7. Emergency Services Technology</p> <p>(a) Emergency Services Technician Basic</p> <p>(b) Emergency Services Technician Intermediate</p> <p>(c) Emergency Services Technician Advanced</p>	<p>The practice of emergency services technology is the provision of pre-hospital emergency care and transportation to the ill and injured while operating, employed in, or acting as a volunteer with an ambulance service.</p> <p>In the course of engaging in the practice of Emergency Services as an <b>Emergency Services Technician</b> a person may, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, the person may perform a number of basic life support patient care and transportation skills with an ill or injured person as are prescribed by regulations under this Act.</p>	<p>(Unaltered)</p>	
<p>8. Medical Laboratory Technology</p>	<p>The practice of medical laboratory technology is the performance of laboratory investigations, under prescription, on the human body or on specimens taken from the human body and the evaluation of the technical sufficiency of the investigations and their results or the examinations, with or without prescription, of specimens of food, drugs, cosmetics, water, or any other substances for the purpose of detecting the presence of pathogenic (infectious) organisms or chemical contamination or</p>	<p>(Unaltered)</p>	

<p>(a) Medical Laboratory Technologist or Medical Laboratory Science Practitioner</p> <p>(b) Medical Laboratory Technician</p>	<p>other toxic substances.</p> <p>In the course of engaging in the practice of medical laboratory technology services as a <b>medical laboratory technologist</b> (medical laboratory science practitioner) or a <b>medical laboratory technician</b> a person may, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, take blood samples from veins or by skin pricking.</p>		
<p>9. Occupational Therapy</p> <p>(a) Occupational Therapist</p> <p>(b) Occupational Therapist Assistant</p>	<p>The practice of occupational therapy is the assessment of function and adaptive behaviour and to develop individual and group programs with people affected by illness, injury, developmental disorders, emotional or psychological problems and aging to maintain, rehabilitate or augment their ability to care for themselves and to engage in work, school or leisure.</p> <p>In the course of engaging in the practice of occupational therapy as an <b>occupational therapist</b>, a person may, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, perform any form of activity for the purpose of developing, maintaining, rehabilitating or augmenting function or adaptive behaviour in the areas of self</p>	<p>(Unaltered)</p>	

	care, productivity and leisure.		
10. Opticianry  Optician	<p>The practice of opticianry is the provision, fitting and adjustment of subnormal vision devices, contact lenses or eye glasses.</p> <p><b>Optician</b> is a person, offering the above services, and subject to terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of registration, perform the functions outlined above.</p>	(Unaltered)	
11. Orthopaedic Technology          Orthopaedic Technologist	<p>The practice of Orthopaedic technology involves the Orthopaedic surgeon being assisted in the treatment of patients by the <b>Orthopaedic technologist</b>. It encompasses-</p> <p>I. Application, adjustment or removal of casts, splints and braces.</p> <p>II. Adjustment, set up and maintenance of traction configuration.</p> <p>III. Assisting the orthopaedic surgeon in the reduction or manipulation of orthopaedic injuries.</p>	(Unaltered)	

The Orthopaedic Technologist is a specially trained person, offering the above services and subject to terms and limitations imposed on his certificate of registration, performs the functions outlined above. The Orthopaedic Technologist is trained to assist a Physician who is involved in the musculoskeletal care of patients.

Insertion of new Paragraph 12

**12. Orthotics and Prosthetics**

**(a) Orthotics and Prosthetic Technologist**

The practice of orthotics and prosthetics aims to provide comprehensive care including patient assessment, formulation of treatment plan, implementation of treatment plan and follow up. Orthotics is concerned with the design, development, fitting and manufacturing of orthoses, which are devices that support or correct musculoskeletal deformities, work with those who have amputations due to accidents, congenital birth problems, or disabling diseases, restoring physiological function and/or cosmesis.

A person who is responsible for the fabrication and fitting of orthotics and prosthetic appliances.

**Paragraph 12 was then accepted as amended**

<p>12. Physiotherapy</p> <p>(a) Physiotherapist</p> <p>(b) Physiotherapy Assistant</p>	<p>The practice of physiotherapy is the assessment of physical function and the treatment, rehabilitation and prevention of physical dysfunction, injury or pain, to develop, maintain, rehabilitate or augment function or to relieve pain.</p> <p>In the course of engaging in the practice of physiotherapy by a <b>physiotherapist</b>, a person may, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, practise physiotherapy in accordance with the regulations under this Act</p>	<p><b>Paragraph 12 re-numbered as 13</b></p>	<p>(Unaltered)</p>
<p>13. Respiratory Therapy</p> <p>Respiratory Therapist</p>	<p>The practice of respiratory therapy is the provision of oxygen therapy, cardio-respiratory and associated disorders to maintain or restore ventilation.</p> <p>In the course of engaging in the practice of respiratory therapy by a <b>respiratory therapist</b>, a person may, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, practice respiratory therapy in accordance with the regulations under this Act.</p>	<p><b>Paragraph 13 re-numbered as 14</b></p>	<p>(Unaltered)</p>
<p>14. Radiography</p>	<p>The practice of radiography is the use of ionizing radiation and the following</p>	<p><b>Paragraph 14 re-numbered as 15</b></p>	<p>(Unaltered)</p>

<p>(a) Radiographer</p>	<p>forms of energy to produce diagnostic images and test results, the evaluation of the technical sufficiency of the images and tests and the therapeutic application of ionizing radiation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electromagnetism for magnetic resonance imaging</li> <li>• Sound waves for diagnostic ultrasound or lithotripsy</li> </ul> <p>In the course of the practice of radiography as a <b>Radiographer</b>, a person may, subject to terms and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, perform the following-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Operate equipment to carry out routine, contrast and special X-ray examinations.</li> </ol>		
<p>(b) X-Ray Technician</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>II. Quality control procedures.</li> <li>III. Radiation protection.</li> </ol> <p>In the course of practice of radiography as an <b>X-ray Technician</b>, a person may, subject to terms and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, perform the following-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Operate equipment and carry out</li> </ol>		



<p>(c) Ultra Sound Technologist or Ultra Sound Sonographer</p>	<p>routine, X-ray examinations.</p> <p>II. Quality control procedures.</p> <p>III. Radiation protection.</p>		
<p>(d) Nuclear Medicine Technologist</p>	<p>In the course of practice of ultrasonography, as a <b>Sonographer</b>, a person may, subject to terms and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, perform the following-</p> <p>I. Operate ultrasonic equipment to provide dynamic visual images of organs, tissues or blood flow inside the body.</p> <p>II. Analyse and modify the scan to optimise the information on the images.</p> <p>III. Provide a written summary of the findings to the physician for medical diagnosis.</p> <p>In the course of practice of nuclear medicine as a <b>Nuclear Medicine Technologist</b>, a person may, subject to terms and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, perform the following-</p> <p>I. Administer radio-pharmaceuticals to patients to assist their physiological</p>		

	<p>response.</p> <p>II. Quality control procedure.</p> <p>III. Computer analysis of patient studies.</p> <p>IV. Radiation safety.</p>		
<b>Second Schedule</b>			
FORM 2	<p>It is hereby certified that.....residing/practising at.....has been duly registered as an allied health professional and is entitled to practice..... in Guyana under the provisions of the Allied Health Professions Act 2009.</p>	<p>It is hereby certified that.....residing/practising at.....has been duly registered as an allied health professional and is entitled to practice..... in Guyana under the provisions of the Allied Health Professions Act <b>2010</b>.</p> <p><b>The above was then accepted as amended.</b></p>	
FORM 3	<p>It is hereby certified that.....residing/practising at.....has been duly registered as an allied health professional and is entitled to practice..... in Guyana under the provisions of the Allied Health Professions Act 2009.</p>	<p>It is hereby certified that.....residing/practising at.....has been duly registered as an allied health professional and is entitled to practice..... in Guyana under the provisions of the Allied Health Professions Act <b>2010</b>.</p> <p><b>The above was then accepted as amended.</b></p>	
FORM 4	<p>Details of health profession and health service authorised to practice</p>	<p>Details of <b>allied</b> health profession and <b>allied</b> health service authorised to practice</p> <p><b>The above was then accepted as amended.</b></p>	

17<sup>th</sup> March, 2010.

# Appendix V

**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2009)**

**MINUTES OF THE  
1<sup>ST</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE  
ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL – BILL NO. 15 OF 2009 HELD  
ON MONDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> JUNE, 2009 IN THE COMMITTEES ROOM NO.2  
(GROUND FLOOR, WEST OF THE MAIN STAIRWAY), PUBLIC  
BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN.**

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRMAN (1)**

The Hon. Hari N. Ramkarran, S.C., M.P., Speaker  
(As Presiding Officer for the election of the Chairman)

**From the People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**  
(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.,  
Minister of Health

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P., - (Absent)  
Minister of Public Services

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.,  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shurry, C.C.H., J.P., M.P.

Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P.,

Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P., - (Excused)

**From the People's National Congress Reform- 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**  
(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

Mrs. Deborah J, Backer, M.P.

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P. - (Absent)

Dr. John Austin, M.P.

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**  
(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

## **Officers**

Ms. Debra H. Cadogan  
Ms. Savitah Samwaroo

- Head of Committees Division (Ag)  
- Assistant Clerk of Committees

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

- 1.1 The Speaker as Presiding Officer for the election of a Chairman for the Committee called the meeting to order at 4.05 p.m.

### **ITEM 2: ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL – BILL NO. 15 OF 2009**

- 2.1 The Speaker called for nominations of a Chairman for the Committee.
- 2.1.1 Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shurry, M.P. proposed and Dr. John Austin, M.P. seconded the nomination of the Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.
- 2.1.2 There being no other nomination, the Speaker declared the Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy as Chairman of the Committee.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 4.10 p.m. the meeting was adjourned *sine die*.

*Confirmed this ..... day of June, 2009*

  
.....  
The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.  
Minister of Health  
Chairman

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2009)

MINUTES OF THE  
2<sup>nd</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE  
ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL – BILL NO. 15 OF 2009  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2009  
AT 3.05 P.M.  
IN THE COMMITTEES ROOM NO. 1, COMMITTEES DIVISION,  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRMAN (1)**

((Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)  
(Elected by the Committee on 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2009)

The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.,  
Minister of Health

**From the People’s Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P.,  
Minister of Public Services

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.,  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shurry, C.C.H., J.P., M.P. – (Excused)

Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P.,

Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P.,

**From the People’s National Congress Reform- 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

Mrs. Deborah J, Backer, M.P.

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P.

Dr. John Austin, M.P. . - (Absent)

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

## **Officers**

Ms. Sherene Warren	- Clerk of Committee
Mr. Nickalai Pryce	- Assistant Clerk of Committee
Ms. Candayce Girard	- Assistant Clerk of Committee
Ms. Koalla Robertson	- Assistant Clerk of Committee

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

- 1.1 The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3.05 p.m.

### **ITEM 2: ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 2.1 The Chairman informed the Committee that the Bill was as a result of advocacy coming from the Optometrists. The Optometrists have always been challenged by their professional practice, because what they should be doing was being done by another set of professionals- the Opticians.
- 2.1.1 He also pointed out that with the Opticians there was no difference between what they did and the Optometrists did. For the Optometrists there was a big difference and indeed the professional definitions of this greater advocacy for an Allied Health Professions Bill, but having led that advocacy, they did not want to be part of it, because they see themselves as doctors and they did not want to be part of this regulation. The Optometrists are presently under the Optometrists Ordinance of 1956, but over the years, since 1991 there has been an understanding that the Medical Council administers the Optometrists Ordinance and suggest that a more formal way by amending the Medical Practitioners Act to allow the medical Partitions Act two changes:
- That an Optometrists should be a member of the Council; and
  - That the Council's mandate be expanded to regulate the Optometrists.

### **ITEM 3: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS**

- 3.1 The following documents were circulated prior to the meeting:-

- (i) Notice of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting dated 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2009;
- (ii) Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting held on the Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2009; and
- (iii) Copies of the Allied Health Professions Bill – Bill No. 15 of 2009.

**ITEM 4: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 1<sup>st</sup> MEETING HELD ON 1<sup>st</sup> JUNE, 2009**

**4.1 Page 1.**

4.1.1 The Chairman informed the Committee that Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P. had asked to be excused and was not absent as indicated on the minutes. The minutes were then corrected to indicate the change.

4.2 Thereafter, the minutes were confirmed as corrected on a motion moved and seconded by Dr. Frank C.S Anthony, M.P. and Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P., respectively.

**ITEM 5: TO CONSIDER THE METHODOLOGY, TIME AND DATE OF THE COMMITTEE'S PROCEEDINGS**

**Methodology:**

5.1 Some Members suggested that the widest possible contributions should be sought from the public.

5.1.1 After discussions with regard to a suitable strategy, Members agreed to include members of the public in the process and that a notice inviting organizations and individuals to present written submissions to the Committees be placed in the press.

5.1.2 The Clerk of Committee was requested to prepare the notice on behalf of the Committee and have the notice published in the print media.

5.1.3 The Committee also agreed that:-

1. The Allied Health Professions Bill should be made available to the members of the public via the Parliament Office and Ministry of Health websites.



2. In cases where organizations/individuals were desirous of making an oral presentation, this should be submitted in writing. They should indicate the clause(s) they intend to address in their presentation; and
3. Specific professional groups and individual should be invited to make submissions on the Bill.

5.1.4 Thereafter, the Chairman, with the consensus of Members undertook to work with the Committee's Clerk in providing the names of the organizations/individuals to which the letters would be sent to.

**5.2 Deadline for Submissions**

5.2.1 It was suggested that the deadline for the submission would be three weeks after the date the letters would have been dispatched to the various organizations.

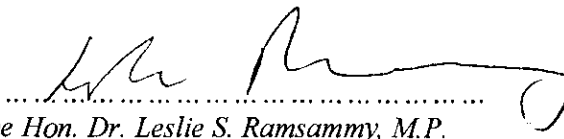
**5.3 Statutory Meetings**

5.3.1 Members agreed that subsequent Meetings of the Committee should be held on for Wednesdays at 3.00 p.m. in the Committee Room No. 1, Committees Division.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 3.50 p.m. the meeting was adjourned *sine die*.

Confirmed this <sup>22<sup>nd</sup></sup>..... day of July, 2009

  
.....  
The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.  
Minister of Health  
Chairman

**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2009)**

**MINUTES OF THE  
3<sup>rd</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE  
ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL – BILL NO. 15 OF 2009  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> JULY, 2009  
AT 3.18 P.M.  
IN THE COMMITTEES ROOM NO. 1, COMMITTEES DIVISION,  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN**

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRMAN (1)**

((Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

(Elected by the Committee on 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2009)

The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.,  
Minister of Health

**From the People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P., - (Absent)  
Minister of Public Services

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.,  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shurry, C.C.H., J.P., M.P.

Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P., - (Absent)

Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P.,

**From the People's National Congress Reform- 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

Mrs. Deborah J, Backer, M.P.

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P.

Dr. John Austin, M.P.

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

## **Officers**

Ms. Sherene Warren	- Clerk of Committees
Mr. Nickalai Pryce	- Assistant Clerk of Committees
Ms. Candayce Girard	- Assistant Clerk of Committees
Ms. Darlene Marshall	- Assistant Clerk of Committees

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

- 1.1 The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3.18 p.m.

### **ITEM 2: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS**

- 2.1 The following documents were circulated prior to the meeting:-
- (i) Notice of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting dated 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2009;
  - (ii) Minutes of 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting held on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2009; and
  - (iii) Copies of submissions received from members of the public and institutions in relation to the Bill.
- 2.2 The following document was circulated at the meeting:
- (i) Copy of the list of Professional Medical Organisations/ Individuals and Agencies to which letters were sent inviting their views on the Allied Health Professions Bill.

### **ITEM 3: CORRESPONDENCE**

- 3.1 Incoming:
- Submissions received from the following agencies/ individual in relation to the Allied Health Professions Bill:
    - (i) Guyana Association for Alternative Medicine
    - (ii) Guyana Physiotherapy Association
    - (iii) The Medical Technologists Association
    - (iv) General Nursing Council, Guyana
    - (v) Guyana Association of Optometrists
    - (vi) Mr. Malcolm Embleton, Certified Professional Counsellor, Negotiator and Mediator

3.2

Outgoing:

- Letters were sent to the following agencies/ organizations requesting their views in relation to the Allied Health Professions Bill:
  - The Nursing Council
  - The Nursing Association
  - The Medical Council
  - The Medical Association
  - Steering Committee for the Reconstitution of the Medical Association
  - The Pharmacy Council
  - The Pharmacy Association
  - Dental Council of Guyana
  - Dental Association
  - Berbice Medical Association
  - Guyana Association of Optometrist
  - Guyana Association of Laboratories
  - Guyana Association of Alternative Medicine
  - Guyana Association of Medical Imaging Practitioners
  
- Letter of notice of invitation to the members of the public for written and/or oral submissions was advertised in the print media for three weeks.

**ITEM 4: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 2<sup>nd</sup> MEETING HELD ON 17<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2009**

- 4.1 Page 1, Paragraph 2.1.1.**
  - 4.1.1 Substitution of the word “Optometrist” for the word “Optometrists” at bullet 1.
  
- 4.2 Page 2, Paragraph 5.1.2**
  - 4.2.1 Substitution of the word “Committees” for the word “Committee” in the first line.
  
- 4.3 Page 3, Paragraph 5.1.3**
  - 4.2.1 Substitution of the word “individuals” for the word “individual” in item 3.
  
- 4.3** Thereafter, the Minutes were confirmed as corrected on a motion moved and seconded by Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P., and Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P, respectively.

**ITEM 5: MATTERS ARISING**

**5.1 Publication of Notice in the Print Media**

5.1.1 The Meeting was informed that the notice of invitation to the members of the public for written and/or oral submissions was advertised in the print media for three weeks.

**5.2 Letters to Professional Medical Organization/ individuals and Agencies**

5.2.1 The Chairman informed the meeting that letters were prepared and sent to fourteen (14) recognized, Professional Organizations/agencies inviting them to submit their views on the Bill. (See list that was circulated at the meeting in item 3).

**ITEM 6: CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND INSTITUTIONS IN RELATION TO THE BILL.**

6.1 The Chairman informed the meeting that in order to ascertain the widest possible views and contributions from the relevant stakeholders that might be affected by the new legislation, an advertisement was published in the print media and letters were sent to specific Professional Organizations/Agencies inviting them to submit their views on the Bill, and to indicate their interest in making an oral presentation before the Committee.

6.1.1 He stated that of the 14 Professional Organizations/ Agencies that were written to, only three (3) had responded, and three (3) responded to the advertisement placed in the newspapers.

6.1.2 The Chairman then enquired from the Members of the Committee the way forward in relation to the submissions received.

6.1.3 Following the discussion which ensued, the following suggestions were expressed as the approach the Committee would take during the period before recess:-

(i) that the Committee proceed to consider the submissions and oral presentations before considering the Bill, Clause by Clause;

(ii) that the Committee agreed to invite all six (6) Organizations/ Individuals who respond to the advertisement to appear before the Committee to make an oral presentation;

5.	Guyana Association of Optometrists	--do--	indicated a willingness to make an oral presentation	Page 18-24 of the Bill (First Schedule)	--do--
6.	Mr. Malcolm Embleton Certified Professional Counsellor, Negotiator and Mediator	--do--	**did not indicate a desire to make an oral presentation	-	--do--

**\*\* The Committee agreed to invite all Agencies/ Individuals to make oral presentation on 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2009.**

Committees Division

Parliament Office

Public Buildings

Brickdam

Georgetown

		prescription of drugs.
<b>6. Dietetics</b>		The practice of dietetics is the assessment of nutrition and nutritional conditions and the prevention and treatment of nutrition-related disorders by nutritional means.
<b>(a) Dietitian or Nutritionist</b>		In the course of engaging in the practice of dietetics as a <b><u>dietitian</u></b> or a <b><u>nutritionist</u></b> a person may, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, perform the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Planning and regulating feeding according to nutritional needs and principles and</li> <li>(ii) The prevention and treatment of nutrition-related disorders by nutritional means.</li> </ul>
<b>(b) Dietary Technician</b>		In the course of engaging in the practice of dietetics as a <b><u>dietary technician</u></b> a person may, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, engage in the history taking and reviewing of nutritional practices under the direct supervision of a dietitian or a nutritionist.
<b>7. Emergency Services Technology</b>		The practice of emergency services technology is the provision of pre-hospital emergency care and transportation of the ill and injured while operating, employed in, or acting as a volunteer with an ambulance service.
<b>(a) Emergency Services Technician Basic</b>		In the course of engaging in the practice of Emergency Services as an <b><u>emergency services technician</u></b> a person may, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, perform a number of basic life support patient care and transportation skills with an ill or injured person as are prescribed by regulations under this Act.
<b>(b) Emergency Services Technician Intermediate</b>		
<b>(c) Emergency Services Technician Advanced</b>		
<b>8. Medical Laboratory Technology</b>		The practice of medical laboratory technology is the performance of laboratory investigations, under prescription, on the human body or on specimens taken from the human body and the evaluation of the technical sufficiency of the investigations and their results or the examinations, with or without prescription, of specimens of food, drugs, cosmetics, water, or any other substances for the purpose of detecting the presence of pathogenic (infectious) organisms or chemical contamination or other toxic substances.
<b>(a) Medical Laboratory Technologist or Medical Laboratory Science Practitioner</b>		In the course of engaging in the practice of medical laboratory technology services as a <b><u>medical laboratory technologist</u></b> ( <b><u>medical laboratory science practitioner</u></b> ) or a <b><u>medical laboratory technician</u></b> a person may,

<p><b>(b) Medical Laboratory Technician</b></p>	<p>subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, take blood samples from veins or by skin pricking.</p>
<p><b>9. Occupational Therapy</b></p> <p><b>(a) Occupational Therapist</b></p> <p><b>(b) Occupational Therapist Assistant</b></p>	<p>The practice of occupational therapy is the assessment of function and adaptive behaviour and to develop individual and group programs with people affected by illness, injury, developmental disorders, emotional or psychological problems and aging to maintain, rehabilitate or augment their ability to care for themselves and to engage in work, school or leisure.</p> <p>In the course of engaging in the practice of occupational therapy as an <b>occupational therapist</b>, a person may, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, perform any form of activity for the purpose of developing, maintaining, rehabilitating or augmenting function or adaptive behaviour in the areas of self care, productivity and leisure.</p>
<p><b>10. Opticianry</b></p> <p><b>Optician</b></p>	<p>The practice of opticianry is the provision, fitting and adjustment of subnormal vision devices, contact lenses or eye glasses.</p> <p><b>Optician</b> is a person, offering the above services, and subject to terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of registration, performing the functions outlined above.</p>
<p><b>11. Orthopaedic Technology</b></p> <p><b>Orthopaedic Technologist</b></p>	<p>The practice of Orthopaedic technology involves the Orthopaedic Surgeon being assisted in the treatment of patients by the <b>orthopaedic technologist</b>. It encompasses-</p> <p>I. Application, adjustment or removal of casts, splints and braces.</p> <p>II. Adjustment, set up and maintenance of traction configuration.</p> <p>III. Assisting the orthopaedic surgeon in the reduction or manipulation of orthopaedic injuries.</p> <p><b>Orthopaedic technologist</b> is a specially trained person, offering the above services and subject to terms and limitations imposed on his certificate of registration, performs the functions outlined above. Orthopaedic Technologist is trained to assist a Physician who is involved in the musculoskeletal care of patients.</p>



<p><b>12. Orthotics and Prosthetics</b></p> <p><b><u>Orthotics and Prosthetic Technologist</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>The practice of orthotics and prosthetics aims to provide comprehensive care including patient assessment, formulation of treatment plan, implementation of treatment plan and follow up. Orthotics is concerned with the design, development, fitting and manufacturing of orthoses, which are devices that support or correct musculoskeletal deformities. Orthotics and Prosthetic Technologist work with those who have amputations due to accidents, congenital birth problems or disabling diseases, restoring physiological function and/or cosmesis.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>A person who is responsible for the fabrication and fitting of orthotics and prosthetic appliances.</u></b></p>
<p><b>13. Physiotherapy</b></p> <p><b>(a) Physiotherapist</b></p> <p><b>(b) Physiotherapy Assistant</b></p>	<p>The practice of physiotherapy is the assessment of physical function and the treatment, rehabilitation and prevention of physical dysfunction, injury or pain, to develop, maintain, rehabilitate or augment function or to relieve pain.</p> <p>In the course of engaging in the practice of physiotherapy by a <b><u>physiotherapist</u></b>, a person may, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, practise physiotherapy in accordance with the regulations under this Act.</p>
<p><b>14. Respiratory Therapy</b></p> <p><b>Respiratory Therapist</b></p>	<p>The practice of respiratory therapy is the provision of oxygen therapy, cardio-respiratory and associated disorders to maintain or restore ventilation.</p> <p>In the course of engaging in the practice of respiratory therapy by a <b><u>respiratory therapist</u></b>, a person may, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, practice respiratory therapy in accordance with the regulations under this Act.</p>
<p><b>15. Radiography</b></p> <p><b>(a) Radiographer</b></p>	<p>The practice of radiography is the use of ionizing radiation and the following forms of energy to produce diagnostic images and test results, the evaluation of the technical sufficiency of the images and tests and the therapeutic application of ionizing radiation:</p> <p>(a) Electromagnetism for magnetic resonance imaging  (b) Sound waves for diagnostic ultrasound or lithotripsy</p> <p>In the course of the practice of radiography as a <b><u>radiographer</u></b>, a person may, subject to terms and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, perform the following-</p> <p>I. Operate equipment to carry out routine, contrast and special X-ray examinations.</p>

<p><b>(b) X-Ray Technician</b></p>	<p>II. Quality control procedures.</p> <p>III. Radiation protection.</p> <p>In the course of practice of radiography as an <b><u>X-ray technician</u></b>, a person may, subject to terms and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, perform the following-</p> <p>I. Operate equipment and carry out routine X-ray examinations.</p> <p>II. Quality control procedures.</p> <p>III. Radiation protection.</p>
<p><b>(c) Ultra Sound Technologist or Ultra Sound Sonographer</b></p>	<p>In the course of practice of ultrasonography, as a <b><u>sonographer</u></b>, a person may, subject to terms and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, perform the following-</p> <p>I. Operate ultrasonic equipment to provide dynamic visual images of organs, tissues or blood flow inside the body.</p> <p>II. Analyse and modify the scan to optimise the information on the images.</p> <p>III. Provide a written summary of the findings to the physician for medical diagnosis.</p>
<p><b>(d) Nuclear Medicine Technologist</b></p>	<p>In the course of practice of nuclear medicine as a <b><u>nuclear medicine technologist</u></b>, a person may, subject to terms and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, perform the following-</p> <p>I. Administer radio-pharmaceuticals to patients to assist their physiological response.</p> <p>II. Quality control procedure.</p> <p>III. Computer analysis of patient studies.</p> <p>IV. Radiation safety.</p>

SECOND SCHEHULE

FORM I

(S. 14 )

DECLARATION

I, A.B., residing at..... do hereby declare that I am a member (or as the case may be) of (college, faculty, Board, university, institution or society) on the .....day of..... and am qualified to practise the allied health profession namely,.....

(Signature)

A.B.

Sworn in before me this the .....day of.....20....

(Signature)

C.D.

Commissioner of Oaths to Affidavits.

FORM 2

[S. 16 (2)]

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS COUNCIL  
GUYANA

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION  
AS ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONAL

Registration No.....

It is hereby certified that .....residing  
/practising at.....has been duly registered as an allied health professional and is  
entitled to practise ..... in Guyana under the provisions of  
the Allied Health Professions Act **2010**.

.....  
Secretary

(Stamp)

FORM 3

[S. 17(1)]

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS COUNCIL  
GUYANA

ANNUAL LICENCE TO PRACTISE  
AS ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONAL

Registration No.....

It is hereby certified that .....residing  
/practising at.....has been duly registered as an allied health professional and is  
entitled to practise ..... in Guyana under the provisions of  
the Allied Health Professions Act **2010**.

This Licence is valid from..... to.....

Dated this the.....day of.....20....

.....  
Secretary

(Stamp)

FORM 4

[S. 17 (2)]

REGISTER OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Sl. No.	Full name or alias	Date of birth. Nationality	Address of residence/Place of practice	Qualification/Experience and languages spoken	Registration Number and date	Details of <b>allied</b> health profession and <b>allied</b> health service authorised to practise	Remarks

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2009)

MINUTES OF THE  
4th MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE  
ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL – BILL NO. 15 OF 2009  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2009  
AT 3.10 P.M.  
IN THE COMMITTEES ROOM NO. 1, COMMITTEES DIVISION,  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRMAN (1)**

((Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

((Elected by the Committee on 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2009)

The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.,  
Minister of Health

**From the People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**

((Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P.,  
Minister of Public Services

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.,  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shurry, C.C.H., J.P., M.P.

Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P.,

Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P., - (Absent)

**From the People's National Congress Reform- 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**

((Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

Mrs. Deborah J, Backer, M.P. - (Excused)

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P. - (Absent)

Dr. John Austin, M.P. - (Absent)

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**

((Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P. - (Excused)

## **Officers**

Ms. Deborah Gray	- Clerk of Committee
Mr. Nickalai Pryce	- Assistant Clerk of Committees
Ms. Candayce Girard	- Assistant Clerk of Committees
Ms. Darlene Marshall	- Assistant Clerk of Committees

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

- 1.1 The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3.10 p.m.

### **ITEM 2: ANNOUNCEMENT**

#### **2.1 EXCUSES**

- 2.1.1 The Chairman informed Members that the following persons had asked to be excused from the meeting :-
- (i) Mrs. Deborah J, Backer, M.P.; and
  - (ii) Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

### **ITEM 3: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS**

- 3.1 The following documents were circulated prior to the Meeting:-
- (i) Notice of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting dated 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2009;
  - (ii) Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2009; and
  - (iii) Copies of the Matrix showing Clauses highlighted by the Agencies/ Individuals in their submission.
- 3.2 The following documents were circulated at the Meeting:
- (i) Copies of oral presentation on the Allied Health Professions Bill 2009 submitted by:-
    - The Medical Technologists Association of Guyana
    - Mr. Malcolm Embleton, Certified professional Counselors, Negotiator and Mediator
    - Guyana Association for Alternative Medicine
    - Guyana Association of Optometrists

### **ITEM 4: CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **4.1 Outgoing:**

Letters were sent to the following agencies/ individuals inviting them to attend the meeting on Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2009, to make oral presentations:

- (i) Guyana Association for Alternative Medicine
- (ii) Guyana Physiotherapy Association



- (iii) The Medical Technologists Association
- (iv) General Nursing Council, Guyana
- (v) Guyana Association of Optometrists
- (vi) Mr. Malcolm Embleton, Certified Professional Counselor, Negotiator and Mediator

**ITEM 5: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 3<sup>rd</sup> MEETING HELD ON 22<sup>nd</sup> JULY, 2009**

**5.1 Page 5, Paragraph 6.1.3**

5.1.1 Deletion of the word “to” after the word “Committee” in line 1 at bullet (iv).

5.1.2 Substitution of paragraph number “6.1.4” for “5.1.4”.

Thereafter, the Minutes were confirmed as corrected on a motion moved and seconded by Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shurry, C.C.H., J.P., M.P., and the Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P., respectively.

**ITEM 6: MATTERS ARISING**

**6.1 Page 4, paragraph 6.1**

6.1.1 The Chairman informed Members that invitations were sent to the six (6) agencies/individuals that responded to the advertisement placed in the print media and that representatives were appearing before the Committee to make their presentations.

**ITEM 7: ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

**7.1 General Nursing Council, Guyana**

7.1.1 At 3.12 p.m. the Chairman welcomed Ms. Saygon, Registrar, General Nursing Council to the Committee. He further stated that the Committee was in receipt of the submission from the Nursing Council and inquired whether there was any other information that the Council needed to present to the Committee.

7.1.2. The Committee was informed that there was no additional information that the Nursing Council wanted to submit to the Committee since its concerns were stated clearly in the submission which was prepared after the Council had met.

7.1.3 At 3.20 p.m. the Chairman thanked Ms. Saygon for the submission sent by the Nursing Council and informed her that as the

Committee proceeded with its work the Council would be contacted again.

## **7.2 Guyana Physiotherapy Association**

7.2.1 Presenters:

- Ms. Beverly Nelson, Secretary
- Ms. Barbara Lawrence, Committee member

7.2.2 At 3.23 p.m., the Chairman welcomed the officers and informed Members that they were involved in the consultations during the drafting of the Bills.

7.2.3 The Officers thanked the Chairman and proceeded to make their presentation.

7.2.4 The Officers informed the Committee that they were concerned that some areas in relation to Health Profession Rehabilitation were left out and expressed the view that because of the large amount of persons working in this field, the Bills should be drafted in such a way as to accommodate those persons.

7.2.5 After much discussion the Chairman requested that the Officers submit a revised list of the professions that were left out to the Committee.

7.2.6 At 4.47 pm. the Chairman thanked the Officers for their presentation.

## **7.3 The Medical Technologists Association**

7.3.1 Presenter:

- Nolan Hawke, Chairman

7.3.2 At 4.50 p.m., the Chairman welcomed the Officer and introduced the Members of the Committee.

7.3.3 The Officer informed the Committee that he was grateful for the acknowledgement and invitation to make written and oral presentations to the Committee and further stated that the Medical Technologist Association of Guyana was an affiliate branch of the Caribbean Medical Technologist Association.

7.3.4 He then addressed the following areas of concern:

- he stated that Medical Technologists were grouped with other professionals that were self-sufficient and that many Medical Technologists operated in the domain of treatment and operation

- In relation to Clause 28B -29 under “Offences”, he posited that the Fees should be re-evaluated to take the average earnings of medical technologists in Guyana into consideration.
- The Council should be allowed to choose the Chairman as Clause 4 and 8 allowed for the Minister to appoint all the members of the council.
- Clause 14 and 15 failed to consider persons graduating with an associate degree.

7.3.5 The Chairman informed the Presenter that there were provisions for persons graduating with such degrees. He then thanked him for his presentation.

**7.4 Mr. Malcolm Embleton, Certified Professional Counselor, Negotiator and Mediator.**

7.4.1 Mr. Embleton thanked the Committee for its invitation and proceeded to highlight his concern. He pointed out that the First Schedule of the Bill did not cater for the Professional counselor and as such he suggested that since professional counseling was a health service in his view, it should be included in the Bill.

7.4.2 After the discussion which ensued, the Chairman thanked Mr. Embleton for his presentation and assured him that the thoughts expressed would be taken into consideration

**7.5 Guyana Association for Alternative Medicine**

7.5.1 Presenters:

- Dr. Iamei Aowmathi, Chairman
- Ms. Cecielia Alves, Secretary
- Ms. Isha Aowmathi, Committee member

7.5.2 At 4.40 p.m the Chairman welcomed the Officers to the meeting and introduced the Members of the Committee.

7.5.3 Dr. Aowmathi then thanked the Committee for the invitation to make oral presentations and introduced the other members of his team. He then proceeded to highlight the following areas of concern:

- GAAM was of the opinion that herbal and alternative medicine should be legitimately integrated into the national health scheme in order to foster a level of comprehensive medical service.

- He further stated that Clause 36 did not allow for the inclusion of alternative medicine in healthcare.
- The council should comprise of at least 1 GAAM representative, as this would foster co-operation within the healthcare framework.
- He highlighted concerns regarding the way herbs were reaped and sold and as a consequence, suggested that GAAM should be made a regulatory body for alternative medicine and that all alternative medical practitioners should be made to register with GAAM.

7.5.4 The Chairman thanked the team for their presentation.

**7.6 Guyana Association of Optometrists**

7.6.1 Presenters:

- Mr. Jose L. DaSilva, Vice President
- Mr. Johan DaSilva, Member

7.6.2 At 5.12 p.m the Chairman welcomed the Presenters and introduced the Members of the Committee.

7.6.3 The Presenters raised the following concerns:

- They advised that the Health Professions Act was old and outdated and that eye care professions had changed dramatically and, as such, the act needed to address these changes.
- The proposed definition for “optician” should be amended.

7.6.4 After the ensuing discussion, the Chairman thanked the Presenters for their presentation.

**ITEM 8: ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

8.1 **Recess**

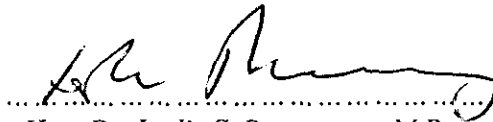
8.1.1 The Committee acknowledged that its meetings would be suspended due to the recess period however, it was agreed that meetings would commence immediately after the resumption.

8.1.2 The Chairman informed Members that in the meantime, the Committees Division would prepare a package with copies of all the presentations and forward it to them for their perusal.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 5.47 p.m. the meeting was adjourned *sine die*

Confirmed this ...<sup>24</sup>... day of October, 2009

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leslie Ramsammy', written over a horizontal dotted line.

The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.  
Minister of Health  
Chairman

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2009)

MINUTES OF THE  
5<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE  
ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL – BILL NO. 15 OF 2009  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER, 2009  
AT 3.10 P.M.  
IN THE COMMITTEES ROOM NO. 2, COMMITTEES DIVISION,  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRMAN (1)**

((Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)  
(Elected by the Committee on 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2009)

The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.,  
Minister of Health

**From the People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P., - (Absent)  
Minister of Public Services

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P., - (Absent)  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shurry, C.C.H., J.P., M.P.

Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P., - (Absent)

Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P.,

**From the People's National Congress Reform- 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

Mrs. Deborah J, Backer, M.P.

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P. - (Excused)

Dr. John Austin, M.P. - (Excused)

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P. - (Excused)

## **Officers**

Ms. Sherene Warren  
Mr. Nickalai Pryce

- Clerk of Committee  
- Assistant Clerk of Committees

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3.10 p.m.

### **ITEM 2: ANNOUNCEMENT**

#### **2.1 Excuses**

2.1.1 The Chairman informed Members that the Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P., would be late.

#### **2.2 Withdrawal of PNC/R 1-G from further meetings.**

2.2.1 Mrs. Deborah Backer informed the Committee that the People's National Congress Reform 1 Guyana places great importance on the Allied Health Professions Bill, however, in light of revelations during the trial of Mr. Simels, as a matter of principle, the Members of the PNC/R- 1G would not be attending any Meeting chaired by the Minister of Health (Hon. Dr. Leslie Ramsammy).

2.2.2 Mrs. Backer further informed the Committee that the Members of the PNC/R-1G reviewed the Bill and prepared a Memorandum with their proposed amendments which they hope would be considered during the Committee's deliberations on the Bill.

2.2.3 Copies of the Memorandum were then submitted to the Clerk of Committee for circulation to Members.

2.2.4 Mrs. Backer then requested that the Members of the PNC/R 1-G be *Excused* from further meetings of the Committee.

### **ITEM 3: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS**

3.1 The following documents were circulated prior to the Meeting:-

(i) Notice of the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting dated 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2009;

- (ii) Minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2009;
- (iii) Copies of the Matrix showing the Sections and Clauses of the Bill highlighted during the Oral Presentation; and
- (iv) Copies of Letters submitted by the Guyana Association of Optometrists.

3.2 The following document was circulated at the Meeting:

- Memorandum submitted by the Members of the People's National Congress Reform | Guyana showing the suggested amendments to the Bill.

**ITEM 4: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 4<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD ON 5<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2009.**

**4.1 Page 1**

- 4.1.1 The Chairman informed the Committee that Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo M.P., had asked to be excused from the meeting and was not absent as reflected in the minutes.
- 4.1.2 Thereafter, the Minutes were confirmed as corrected, on a motion moved and seconded by Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shurry, C.C.H., J.P., M.P., and Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P., respectively.

**ITEM 5: MATTERS ARISING**

**5.1 Page 6 – Guyana Association of Optometrists**

- 5.1.1 The Chairman informed Members that subsequent to the oral presentations, the Guyana Association of Optometrists had submitted some written presentations which were now in Member's possession for consideration in collaboration with the other submission highlighted during the oral presentations as outlined in the matrix.
- 5.2 **Page 6 - Highlights of the issue before the Committee.**
  - 5.2.1 In light of the break in Committee meetings due to the recess period, the Chairman reminded Members of the issues before the Committee. Some areas highlighted were as follows:-



- that the Optometrists were not interested in being a part of the Allied Health Professions Bill because they were qualified as Doctors and all the other professions on the Bill only required a Diploma or First Degree entry requirement;
- that currently, the Optometrists were being regulated under the Optometrists Ordinance but are now lobbying for a Council of their own;
- that the Optometrists in the country were too small in numbers to facilitate the establishment of a council since this would mean, they would be regulating themselves;
- that the Ophthalmologists do not want the Optometrists to be a part of the Medical Practitioners Act, (the body responsible for regulating Ophthalmologist) because they are qualified physicians who specialize in surgery of the eyes while the Optometrists are seen as being below them.

5.2.2 The Chairman noted that the PNCR 1-G in their proposed amendments to the Bill, made no representation to have the Optometrists included in the Bill.

5.2.3 He further stated that his proposal to the Guyana Association of Optometrist was to have the *Medical Practitioners Act* amended to include them. He however urged Members to study their documents in order to deal with the complexity of the issues before them.

**ITEM 6: CONSIDERSTION OF THE MATRIX SHOWING THE SECTIONS AND CLAUSES OF THE BILL HIGHLIGHTED IN THE ORAL PRESENTATIONS.**

**6.1 Guyana Nursing Council**

6.1.1 The Chairman noted that the GNC was in agreement with the Bill, and recorded the Committees' appreciation of the GNC in participating in the Bill despite it did not include them.

**6.2 Guyana Physiotherapy Association**


6.2.1 The Chairman noted that the GPA was supportive of the Bill but wanted the list under the First Schedule to include more persons. After some discussion the issue was deferred to the next meeting of the Committee for further deliberations.

- 6.3 The Medical Technologists Association**
- 6.3.1 **Clauses 7, 14, 15, 17(1) and 28(b)**
- 6.3.1.1 After much discussions it was agreed that the *finis* recommended in the Bill were there to dissuade persons from breaking the law. The Committee also noted that the areas of concern raised in Clauses 14 and 15 were already addressed in the regulations. Thereafter, the proposed amendments of the MTA were **rejected**.
- 6.4 Mr. Malcolm Embleton: Certified Professional Counselor, Negotiator and Mediator**
- 6.4.1 After much discussion the Committee decided to defer the consideration of the proposed amendment to the next meeting.
- 6.5 Guyana Association for Alternative Medicine**
- 6.5.1 After much discussion the Committee decided that GAAM would be included into the Bill and that the Schedule would be amended at some time to incorporate some of their recommendations. Thereafter, further discussions on GAAM were deferred to the next meeting.
- 6.6 Guyana Association of Optometrists**
- 6.6.1 After much discussion the Committee decided to defer further consideration of the GAO proposals to the next meeting.
- 6.7 In closing the Committee noted the proposed amendments made by the PNCR/1-G and agreed that their proposals would be examined in detail during the Clause by Clause consideration of the Bill.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 4.15 p.m. the meeting was adjourned *sine die*

Confirmed this ...~~2~~... day of January, 2010

  
.....  
The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.  
Minister of Health  
Chairman

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2009)

MINUTES OF THE  
6<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE  
ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL – BILL NO. 15 OF 2009  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2009  
AT 3.10 P.M.  
IN THE COMMITTEES ROOM NO. 2, COMMITTEES DIVISION,  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRMAN (1)**

((Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)  
(Elected by the Committee on 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2009)

The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.,  
Minister of Health

**From the People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P.,  
Minister of Public Services

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.,  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shurry, C.C.H., J.P., M.P. - (Excused)

Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P., - (Excused)

Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P.,

**From the People's National Congress Reform- 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

Mrs. Deborah J, Backer, M.P. - (Excused)

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P. - (Excused)

Dr. John Austin, M.P. - (Excused)

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

## **Officers**

Ms. Sherene Warren  
Mr. Nickalai Pryce

- Clerk of Committee  
- Assistant Clerk of Committees

## **In attendances:**

Mr. Saji Kumar

-Legal Expect (Attorney General Chambers)

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3.10 p.m.

### **ITEM 2: ANNOUNCEMENT**

#### **2.1 EXCUSES**

2.1.1 The Chairman informed Members that the following persons had asked to be excused from the Meeting:

- (i) Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P., and
- (ii) Mrs. Philomena Sahoye- Shurry, C.C.H., J.P., M.P.

### **ITEM 3: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS**

3.1 The following documents were circulated prior to the Meeting:-

- (i) Notice of the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting dated 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2009; and
- (ii) Minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2009.

3.2 The following document was circulated at the Meeting:

- Letter from the Guyana Association of Optometrist requesting additional presentation to the Committee on the Allied Health Professions Bill 2009.

### **ITEM 4: CORRESPONDENCE**

4.1 Incoming: Letter from the Guyana Association of Optometrist requesting additional presentation to the Committee on the Allied Health Professions Bill 2009.

**ITEM 5: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD ON 21<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER, 2009.**

5.1 This Item was deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

**ITEM 6: CONSIDERSTION OF THE ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL 2009- BILL No.15 OF 2009.**

6.1 The Committee proceeded to consider the Bill Clause by Clause.

6.2 The following Clauses were accepted as presented:  
**Clauses:3,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24, 25,26,27,29,30,31,32,34,35,36,and 37.**

6.3 The following Clauses were accepted as amended:  
**Clauses: 1, 2,4,28, and 33.**

6.3.1 The amendments made to the Bill can be seen in the Matrix attached.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Date and Time of next Meeting:**

The Chairman informed the Committee that the next Meeting would be set between the Clerk of the Committee and himself and Round Robin to Members of the Committee.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 4.50 p.m. the meeting was adjourned *sine die*

*Confirmed this ...?!!..... day of January, 2010*

  
.....  
*The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.*  
*Minister of Health*  
*Chairman*

**Allied Health Professions Bill 2009- Bill 15 of 2009**  
**Matrix - Amendments approved by the Committee**

ORIGINAL CLAUSES	AMENDED CLAUSES
<p><b><u>Clause 2:</u></b></p> <p>2. In this Act-</p> <p>(a) “Council” means the Allied Health Professions Council established under section 3;</p> <p>(b) “Minister” means the Minister responsible for Health;</p> <p>(c) “allied health professional” means a person whose name appears on the Register and is for the time being allowed to practice as such;</p> <p>(d) “allied health profession” means any profession specified in the First Schedule;</p> <p>(e) “allied health services” means such services as are performed by members of an allied health profession specified in the First Schedule;</p> <p>(f) “prescribed” means prescribed by regulations made by the Council with the approval of the Minister;</p> <p>(g) “Register” means the Register of Allied Health Professionals kept and maintained by the Council under section 17 (2);</p>	<p><b><u>Clause 2:</u></b></p> <p>The following paragraphs were re-arranged in alphabetical order.</p> <p><b>2. In this Act-</b></p> <p><b>(a) “allied health profession” means any profession specified in the First Schedule;</b></p> <p><b>(b) “allied health professional” means a person whose name appears on the Register and is for the time being allowed to practice as such;</b></p> <p><b>(c) “allied health services” means such services as are performed by members of an allied health profession specified in the First Schedule;</b></p> <p><b>(d) “Council” means the Allied Health Professions Council established under section 3;</b></p> <p><b>(e) “Minister” means the Minister responsible for Health;</b></p> <p><b>(f) “prescribed” means prescribed by regulations made by the Council with the approval of the Minister;</b></p> <p><b>(g) “Register” means the Register of Allied Health Professionals kept and maintained by the Council under section 17 (2);</b></p>

<p>(h) "Secretary" means the person for the time being performing the functions of Secretary to the Council.</p>	<p><b>(h) "Secretary" means the person for the time being performing the functions of Secretary to the Council.</b></p> <p><b>Clause 2 was then accepted as amended.</b></p>
<p><b><u>Clause 4:</u></b></p> <p><b>4.</b> (1) The Council shall consist of the following eleven members, namely-</p> <p>(a) the Chief Medical Officer who shall be an <i>ex officio</i> member of the Council;</p> <p>(b) two allied health professionals from among the allied health professions listed in the First Schedule appointed by the Minister;</p> <p>(c) six members, being allied health professionals, appointed by the Minister on the recommendation of organisations representing allied health professions listed in the First Schedule;</p> <p>(d) two persons from among consumer organisations who are not allied health professionals appointed by the Minister.</p> <p>(2) Where a sufficient number of persons representing organisations referred to in subsection (1) (c) are not available for appointment, the Minister shall appoint any health professional instead.</p>	<p><b><u>Clause4:</u></b></p> <p><b>4.</b>(1) The Council shall consist of the following eleven members, namely-</p> <p>(a) the Chief Medical Officer who shall be an <i>ex officio</i> member of the Council;</p> <p>(b) two allied health professionals from among the allied health professions listed in the First Schedule appointed by the Minister;</p> <p>(c) six members, being allied health professionals, appointed by the Minister on the recommendation of organisations representing allied health professions listed in the First Schedule;</p> <p>(d) two persons from among consumer organisations <b>after consultation by the Minister</b> who are not allied health professionals appointed by the Minister.</p> <p>(2) Where a sufficient number of persons representing organisations referred to in subsection (1) (c) are not available for appointment, the Minister shall appoint any health professional instead.</p> <p><b>Clause 4 was then accepted as amended.</b></p>

**Clause 28:**

**28.** (1) Any person-

(a) who practices an allied health profession and allied health service mentioned in the First Schedule without the certificate of registration and annual licence under this Act intentionally or recklessly-

(i) uses any name, title or other description implying or calculated to imply that he is recognised by law to practise any health profession and health service;

(ii) assumes or uses any suffix or prefix to his name indicative of any occupational designation relating to the practice of any allied health profession and allied health service;

(iii) advertises or holds himself out as a person authorised or qualified to practise any allied health profession and allied health service;

(iv) engages in the practice of any allied health profession and allied health service;

(v) claims to be registered under this Act or holds himself out as being registered under this Act;

(vi) claims to be licensed to practice any health profession in any health service;

(vii) carries out any act which is required to be carried out by a registered allied health professional by or under this Act; or

**Clause 28:**

**28.** (1) Any person-

(a) who practices an allied health profession and allied health service mentioned in the First Schedule without the certificate of registration and annual licence under this Act intentionally or recklessly-

(i) uses any name, title or other description implying or calculated to imply that he is recognised by law to practise any **allied** health profession and **allied** health service;

(ii) assumes or uses any suffix or prefix to his name indicative of any occupational designation relating to the practice of any allied health profession and allied health service;

(iii) advertises or holds himself out as a person authorised or qualified to practise any allied health profession and allied health service;

(iv) engages in the practice of any allied health profession and allied health service;

(v) claims to be registered under this Act or holds himself out as being registered under this Act;

(vi) claims to be licensed to practice any health profession in any **allied** health service;

(vii) carries out any act which is required to be carried out by a registered allied health professional by or under this Act; or



<p>(b) who fails to display his certificate of registration and licence which he is required to display under this Act, shall be guilty of an offence and be liable on summary conviction, in the case of a first offence, to a fine of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars and imprisonment for nine months, and in the case of every continuing offence, to an additional fine which may extend to five hundred thousand dollars on every occasion and to imprisonment for twelve months.</p>	<p>(b) who fails to display his certificate of registration and licence which he is required to display under this Act, shall be guilty of an offence and be liable on summary conviction, in the case of a first offence, to a fine of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars and imprisonment for nine months, and in the case of every continuing offence, to an additional fine which may extend to five hundred thousand dollars on every occasion and to imprisonment for twelve months.</p> <p><b>Clause 28 was then accepted as amended.</b></p>
<p><b><u>Clause 33:</u></b></p> <p><b>33.</b> Nothing in this Act shall prevent the performance of any allied health service in any allied health profession by a person in training if those services are performed under the direct supervision and control of -</p> <p>(a) an allied health professional registered in the relevant allied health profession and allied health service;</p> <p>(b) a medical practitioner under the Medical Practitioners Act;</p> <p>(c) a dental practitioner under the Dental Registration Act.</p>	<p><b><u>Clause 33:</u></b></p> <p><b>33.</b> Nothing in this Act shall prevent the performance of any allied health service in any allied health profession by a person in training if those services are performed under the direct supervision and control of -</p> <p>(a) an allied health professional registered in the relevant allied health profession and allied health service;</p> <p>(b) a medical practitioner under the Medical Practitioners Act;</p> <p>(c) a dental practitioner under the Dental Registration Act.</p> <p><b>(d) a medex under the medex Act 1978.</b></p> <p><b>Clause 33 was then accepted as amended.</b></p>

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2010)

MINUTES OF THE  
7<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE  
ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL – BILL NO. 15 OF 2009  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2010  
AT 3.10 P.M.  
IN THE COMMITTEES ROOM NO. 1, COMMITTEES DIVISION,  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRMAN (1)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

(Elected by the Committee on 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2009)

The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.,  
Minister of Health

**From the People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P., - (Absent)  
Minister of Public Services

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.,  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shurry, C.C.H., J.P., M.P. - (Excused)

Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P.,

Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P.,

**From the People's National Congress Reform- 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

Mrs. Deborah J, Backer, M.P. - (Excused)

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P. - (Excused)

Dr. John Austin, M.P. - (Excused)

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**

(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)

Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

## **Officers**

Ms. Sherene Warren  
Mr. Nickalai Pryce

- Clerk of Committees  
- Assistant Clerk of Committees

## **In attendances:**

Mr. Saji Kumar

-Legal Expert (Attorney General Chambers)

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3.10 p.m.

### **ITEM 2: ANNOUNCEMENT**

#### **2.1 EXCUSES**

The Chairman informed Members that Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shurry, C.C.H., J.P., M.P had asked to be excused from the Meeting.

### **ITEM 3: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS**

3.1 The following documents were circulated prior to the Meeting:-

- (i) Notice of the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting dated 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2010; and
- (ii) Minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2009, and 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2009 respectively.

3.2 The following documents were circulated at the Meeting:

- Record of Proceeding of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on Wednesday, 5 August, 2009;and
- Copy of the presentation by the Guyana Association of Optometrists.

### **ITEM 4: CORRESPONDENCE**

4.1 Outgoing: Letter dated 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2009 to Dr. Karen Persram, President of the Guyana Association of Optometrist inviting her to make another presentation to the Committee on the Allied Health Professions Bill 2009.

**ITEM 5:                   SUSPENSION OF AGENDA**

- 5.1                   The Committee agreed to suspend items (i) and (ii) on the agenda to commence the presentation by the Guyana Association of Optometrists.

**ITEM 6:                   ORAL PRESENTATION**

**6.1                   Guyana Association of Optometrists**

6.1.1               Presenters

- Dr. Karen Persram, Optometrist
- Dr. Michelle Ming, Optometrist
- Dr. Johan Da Silva, Optometrist
- Dr. Jose. L. Da Silva, Optometrist
- Mr. Neil Persram, Consultant/ Adviser
- Dr. Dionne Fries, Optometrist

- 6.1.2               At 3.15 p.m the Chairman welcomed the presenters and introduced the Members of the Committee. Thereafter, Dr. Persram introduced her term to the Members

- 6.1.3               During the presentation the following issues/areas were highlighted:

- That Optometrist were independent primary health care providers who specialize in the examination, diagnosis, treatment, management and prevention of disease and disorders of the visual system, the eye and associated structure as well as the diagnosis of ocular manifestations of systemic conditions.
- That the Optometrists were required to have 8 years of university studies, 4 years undergraduate degree and 4 years post graduate degree.
- That unlike the Optometrists, the Optician would make, verify and deliver lenses; frames and contact lenses upon prescription from an ophthalmologist. He/she is requested to have two years associate degree in opticianry or he/she was certified after completion of an apprenticeship period under an ophthalmologist or optometrist supervision.
- That there were 47 Optometry Universities in 18 countries around the world.

- The Guyana Association of Optometrists was formed in January 2006 and had approved membership into the World Council of Optometry in April 2007 and to the Caribbean Association of Optometrists in June 2009.
- That the Guyana Association of Optometrists recommended that a Guyana Optometrists Act be established or that the Guyana Optometrists Ordinance of 5<sup>th</sup> July, 1956, under which they are managed, is updated.

6.1.4 Questions for the purpose of clarification /information were asked by Members of the Committee to which answers were given.

6.1.5 After much discussion, the Chairman thanked the Guyana Association of Optometrists for their presentation.

**ITEM 7: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD ON 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER, 2009.**

7.1 The Minutes were confirmed, without correction, on a motion moved and seconded by Dr. Frank C.S Anthony, M.P., and Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P., respectively.

**ITEM 8: MATTERS ARISING**

**8.1 Page 2, Item 3.2: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS**

8.1.1 The Chairman informed Members that the letter was sent inviting the Guyana Association of Optometrists to re-appear before the Committee and they were waiting to make their presentation.

**ITEM 9: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD ON 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2009.**

9.1 The Minutes were confirmed, without correction, on a motion moved and seconded by Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P., and Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P., respectively.

**ITEM 10: CONSIDERATION OF THE ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL 2009- BILL No.15 OF 2009.**

10.1 The Committee proceeded to consider the First Schedule of the Bill.

- 10.1.1 The following items of the matrix of the first schedule were accepted as presented:  
**Items:1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,12,13 and 14.**
- 10.1.2 The following items of the matrix of the first schedule were accepted as amended:
- 10.1.3 **Items: 2- Audiology and Speech Language Pathology**
- 10.1.3.1 Insertion of the following profession:  
***(b) Audiological Practitioners:***  
***Audiological Practitioner conducts hearing test, hearing aid evaluation and performs fitting of hearing aid. They perform these functions under the supervision of a qualified Audiologist or Audiological Physicia.***
- 10.1.3.2 Re-numbering of item 2 ***(b) Speech Language Pathologist*** as 2 ***(c).***  
**Item 2** of the matrix was then **accepted as amended**
- 10.1.4 **Item: 11- Orthopaedic Technology:**
- 10.1.4.1 Insertion of the following professions:  
***(b) Orthotics and Prosthetics:***  
***The practice of Orthotics and prosthetics aims to provide to provide comprehensive care including patient assessment, formulation of treatment plan, implementation of treatment plan and follow up. Orthotics is concerned with the design, development, fitting and manufacturing of orthoses, which are devices that support or correct musculoskeletal deformities work with those who have amputations due to accidents, congenital birth problems, or disabling diseases, restoring physiological function and/or cosmesis.***  
***(c) Orthotics and Prosthetic Technologist:***  
***Responsible for the fabrication and fitting of othotics and prosthetic appliances.***  
**Item 11** of the matrix was then **accepted as amended.**

**ITEM 11: ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**11.1 MATTER TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE NEXT MEETING**

11.1.1 A Member of the Committee enquired whether the Dental Technicians should be included in the Bill.

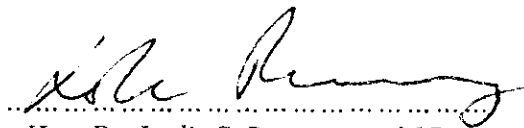
11.1.2 In noting a recommendation made by Mr. Embelton during his presentation for Counsellors to be included in the AHPB, the Committee agreed to research what legislation currently governs the practice of Social Workers to determine if Counselors should be including under this legislation or if it should be included in the AHPB.

11.1..2 The Chairman informed Members that he would research the matter and report back to the Committee at the next meeting, however, this should not preclude Members from doing their own research. .

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 4.20 p.m. the meeting was adjourned to 3.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2010

*Confirmed this ..... day of January, 2010*



*The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.  
Minister of Health  
Chairman*

**THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE  
ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL – BILL NO. 15 OF 2009  
Matrix - Amendments approved by the Committee to the First Schedule**

**(ORIGINAL)**

**(AMENDED)**

<b>Allied Health Profession</b>	<b>Allied Health Profession and Health Services</b>	<b>Allied Health Profession</b>	<b>Allied Health Profession and Health Services</b>
<p>2. Audiology and Speech Language Pathology</p> <p>(a) Audiologist</p>	<p>The practice of audiology means the practice of conducting measurement, testing and evaluation relating to hearing and vestibular systems, including audiologic and electrophysiological measures, and conducting programs of identification, hearing conservation, habilitation and rehabilitation for the purpose of identifying disorders related to hearing loss, including but not limited to vestibular evaluation, electrophysiological audiometry and cochlear implants. The practice includes the treatment and prevention of auditory dysfunction and to develop, maintain, rehabilitate or augment auditory and communicative functions. Any person offering the above services is an audiologist and subject to terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of registration, perform the functions outlined above.</p>	<p>2. Audiology and Speech Language Pathology</p> <p>(a) Audiologist</p>	<p>The practice of audiology means the practice of conducting measurement, testing and evaluation relating to hearing and vestibular systems, including audiologic and electrophysiological measures, and conducting programs of identification, hearing conservation, habilitation and rehabilitation for the purpose of identifying disorders related to hearing loss, including but not limited to vestibular evaluation, electrophysiological audiometry and cochlear implants. The practice includes the treatment and prevention of auditory dysfunction and to develop, maintain, rehabilitate or augment auditory and communicative functions. Any person offering the above services is an audiologist and subject to terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of registration, perform the functions outlined above.</p>



<p>(b) Speech Language Pathologist</p>	<p>The practice of speech language pathology means the practice of facilitating development and maintenance of human communication through programs of screening, identifying, assessing and interpreting, diagnosing, habilitating and rehabilitating speech</p>	<p><b>(b) Audiological Practitioners</b></p> <p><b>(c) Speech Language Pathologist</b></p>	<p><b>Audiological Practitioner conducts hearing test, hearing aid evaluation and performs fitting of hearing aid. They perform these functions under the supervision of a qualified Audiologist or Audiological Physician.</b></p> <p>The practice of speech language pathology means the practice of facilitating development and maintenance of human communication through programs of screening, identifying, assessing and interpreting, diagnosing, habilitating and rehabilitating speech</p> <p><b>Paragraph 2 was then accepted as amended</b></p>
<p>11. Orthopaedic Technology</p>	<p>The practice of Orthopaedic technology involves the Orthopaedic surgeon being assisted in the treatment of patients by the Orthopaedic technologist. It encompasses-</p> <p>I. Application, adjustment or removal of casts, splints and braces.</p> <p>II. Adjustment, set up and maintenance of traction configuration.</p>	<p>11. Orthopaedic Technology</p>	<p>The practice of Orthopaedic technology involves the Orthopaedic surgeon being assisted in the treatment of patients by the Orthopaedic technologist. It encompasses-</p> <p>I. Application, adjustment or removal of casts, splints and braces.</p> <p>II. Adjustment, set up and maintenance of traction configuration.</p>

<p>(a) Orthopaedic Technologist</p>	<p>III. Assisting the orthopaedic surgeon in the reduction or manipulation of orthopaedic injuries.</p> <p>The Orthopaedic Technologist is a specially trained person, offering the above services and subject to terms and limitations imposed on his certificate of registration, performs the functions outlined above. The Orthopaedic Technologist is trained to assist a Physician who is involved in the musculoskeletal care of patients.</p>	<p>(a) Orthopaedic Technologist</p> <p>(b) Orthotics and Prosthetics</p> <p>(c) Orthotics and Prosthetic Technologist</p>	<p>III. Assisting the orthopaedic surgeon in the reduction or manipulation of orthopaedic injuries.</p> <p>The Orthopaedic Technologist is a specially trained person, offering the above services and subject to terms and limitations imposed on his certificate of registration, performs the functions outlined above. The Orthopaedic Technologist is trained to assist a Physician who is involved in the musculoskeletal care of patients</p> <p><b>The practice of Orthotics and prosthetics aims to provide to provide comprehensive care including patient assessment, formulation of treatment plan, implementation of treatment plan and follow up. Orthotics is concerned with the design, development, fitting and manufacturing of orthoses, which are devices that support or correct musculoskeletal deformities work with those who have amputations due to accidents, congenital birth problems, or disabling diseases, restoring physiological function and/or cosmesis.</b></p> <p><b>Responsible for the fabrication and fitting of othotics and prosthetic appliances.</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph 11 as then accepted as amended</b></p>
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**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2010)**

**MINUTES OF THE  
8<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE  
ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL – BILL NO. 15 OF 2009  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2010  
AT 3.30 P.M.  
IN THE COMMITTEES ROOM NO. 1, COMMITTEES DIVISION,  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN**

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRMAN (1)**

**((Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)**

**(Elected by the Committee on 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2009)**

The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.,  
Minister of Health

**From the People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**

**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)**

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P., - (Absent)  
Minister of Public Services

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P., - (Excused)  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shurry, C.C.H., J.P., M.P. - (Excused)

Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P.,

Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P.,

**From the People's National Congress Reform- 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**

**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)**

Mrs. Deborah J, Backer, M.P. - (Excused)

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P. - (Excused)

Dr. John Austin, M.P. - (Excused)

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**

**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)**

Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

## **Officers**

Ms. Deborah Gray  
Mr. Nickalai Pryce

- Clerk of Committees  
- Assistant Clerk of Committees

## **In attendances:**

Mr. Saji Kumar

-Legal Expert (Attorney General Chambers)

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3.30 p.m.

### **ITEM 2: ANNOUNCEMENT**

#### **2.1 EXCUSES**

The Chairman informed Members that the following persons asked to be excused from the Meeting:

- Mrs. Philomena Sahoye- Shurry, C.C.H., J.P., and
- Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.

### **ITEM 3: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS**

3.1 The following documents were circulated prior to the Meeting:-

- (i) Notice of the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting dated 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2010;
- (ii) Minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2010;
- (iii) Matrix showing the amended paragraphs of the First Schedule; and
- (iv) Draft Report of the Committee.

### **ITEM 4: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD ON 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2010.**

#### **4.1 Page 3, Paragraph 6.1.2- Guyana Association of Optometrists**

4.1.1 Substitution of the word “team” for the word “term” in the final line.

**4.2 Page 5, Paragraph 10.1.3.1- Audiology and Speech Language Pathology.**

4.2.1 Substitution of the words “Audiological Physician” for the words “Audiological Physicia” in the last line.

**4.3 Page 5, Paragraph 10.1.3.1- Audiology and Speech Language Pathology**

4.3.1 Substitution of the word “Practitioner” for the word “Practitioners” in (b).

**4.4 Page 5, Paragraph 10.1.4 – Item 11: Orthopaedic Technology.**

4.4.1 Insertion of the following as the new Item 12:

***Orthotics and Prosthetics:***

***The practice of Orthotics and prosthetics aims to provide comprehensive care including patient assessment, formulation of treatment plan, implementation of treatment plan and follow up. Orthotics is concerned with the design, development, fitting and manufacturing of orthoses, which are devices that support or correct musculoskeletal deformities. Prosthetists work with those who have amputations due to accidents, congenital birth problems, or disabling diseases, restoring physiological function and/or cosmesis.***

***(a) Orthotics and Prosthetic Technologist:***

***A person who is responsible for the fabrication and fitting of orthotics and prosthetic appliances.***

4.4.2 Re-numbering of item 12 as item 13 and other items in the First Schedule accordingly.

**4.5 Page 6, Paragraph 11.1.2**

4.5.1 Substitution of the word “included” for the word “including” in the last line.

4.5.2 The Minutes were confirmed, as corrected, on a motion moved and seconded by Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P., and Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P., respectively.

**ITEM 5: MATTERS ARISING**

**5.1 Page 6, Item 11: Matter to be discussed at the next meeting.**

5.1.1 The Chairman informed Members that the Dental Technicians were regulated under the Dental Practitioners' Act and should not be included in the Allied Health Professions Bill.

5.1.2 He also advised that based on his research there was no law governing the registration of social workers. However, an association was recently formed and was presently in the process of developing appropriate legislation.

5.1.3 In view of that, he suggested that the Committee should allow such discussions to flow and, further, should the association not consider the inclusion of the counsellors in its legislation, the Minister of Health had the authority to adjust the First Schedule of the Allied Health Professions Bill to facilitate the inclusion.

**ITEM 6: CONSIDERATION OF THE MATRIX OF THE FIRST SCHEDULE.**

**6.1 Page 3, Item 11- Orthopaedic Technology**

6.1.1 The Committee agreed to leave item 11 as unaltered. Therefore, it was deleted from the matrix with amendments.

6.1.2 Insertion of the following as the new Item 12:

***Orthotics and Prosthetics:***

***The practice of Orthotics and prosthetics aims to provide comprehensive care including patient assessment, formulation of treatment plan, implementation of treatment plan and follow up. Orthotics is concerned with the design, development, fitting and manufacturing of orthoses, which are devices that support or correct musculoskeletal deformities. Prosthetists work with those who have amputations due to accidents, congenital birth problems, or disabling diseases, restoring physiological function and/or cosmesis.***

***(a) Orthotics and Prosthetic Technologist:***

***A person who is responsible for the fabrication and fitting of orthotics and prosthetic appliances.***

- 6.1.3 Re-numbering of item 12 as item 13 and other items in the First Schedule accordingly.
- 6.1.4 The matrix was then confirmed, as corrected by the Committee.
- 6.1.5 The amendments made to the First Schedule could be seen in the Matrix attached.

**ITEM 7: CONSIDERSTION OF THE ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL 2009- BILL No.15 OF 2009.**

**7.1 Review**

- 7.1.1 Mr. Saji Kumar (Legal Expert) suggested that the Committee review Section 4 (d) of the Bill.
- 7.1.2 After much discussion, the Committee agreed that Section 4 (d) be changed to state:

*“(d) Two persons from among consumer organisations who are not allied health professionals appointed by the Minister **after consultation by with the organisations**”*

**ITEM 8: Consideration of the Draft Report**

- 8.1 The Chairman requested the Clerk to make the relevant amendments and, to circulate both electronic and hard copies of the completed report to Members. He also suggested that Members could highlight any changes to the report and re-submit to the Clerk of the Committee, to which the Members agreed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 3.55 p.m. the meeting was adjourned to 3.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup>Wednesday, 2010.

Confirmed this ...<sup>+01</sup>3..... day of February, 2010

  
.....  
The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.  
Minister of Health  
Chairman

**THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE  
ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL – BILL NO. 15 OF 2009  
Matrix - Amendments approved by the Committee to the First Schedule**

<b>(ORIGINAL)</b>		<b>(AMENDED)</b>	
<b>Allied Health Profession</b>	<b>Allied Health Profession and Health Services</b>	<b>Allied Health Profession</b>	<b>Allied Health Profession and Health Services</b>
<p>12. Physiotherapy</p> <p>(a) Physiotherapist</p> <p>(b) Physiotherapy Assistant</p>	<p>The practice of physiotherapy is the assessment of physical function and the treatment, rehabilitation and prevention of physical dysfunction, injury or pain, to develop, maintain, rehabilitate or augment function or to relieve pain.</p> <p>In the course of engaging in the practice of physiotherapy by a <b>physiotherapist</b>, a person may, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, practise physiotherapy in accordance with the regulations under this Act.</p>	<p><b>12. Orthotics and Prosthetics</b></p> <p><b>(a) Orthotics and Prosthetic Technologist</b></p>	<p>The practice of Orthotics and prosthetics aims to provide to provide comprehensive care including patient assessment, formulation of treatment plan, implementation of treatment plan and follow up. Orthotics is concerned with the design, development, fitting and manufacturing of orthoses, which are devices that support or correct musculoskeletal deformities work with those who have amputations due to accidents, congenital birth problems, or disabling diseases, restoring physiological function and/or cosmesis.</p> <p>A person who is responsible for the fabrication and fitting of othotics and prosthetic appliances.</p> <p>Paragraph 12 as then accepted as amended</p>



**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2010)**

**MINUTES OF THE  
9<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE  
ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL – BILL NO. 15 OF 2009  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY, 2010  
AT 3.18 P.M.  
IN THE COMMITTEES ROOM NO. 1, COMMITTEES DIVISION,  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN**

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRMAN (1)**

**((Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>ST</sup> May, 2009)**  
**(Elected by the Committee on 1<sup>ST</sup> June, 2009)**

The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.,  
Minister of Health

**From the People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**

**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>ST</sup> May, 2009)**

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P.,  
Minister of Public Services

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P., - Excused  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shurry, C.C.H., J.P., M.P. - Excused

Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P., - Excused

Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P.,

**From the People's National Congress Reform- 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**

**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>ST</sup> May, 2009)**

Mrs. Deborah J, Backer, M.P. - Excused

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P. - Excused

Dr. John Austin, M.P. - Excused

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**

**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>ST</sup> May, 2009)**

Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

## **Officers**

Ms. Deborah Gray  
Mr. Nickalai Pryce

- Clerk of Committees  
- Assistant Clerk of Committees

## **In attendances:**

Mr. Saji Kumar

-Legal Expert (Attorney General Chambers)

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3.30 p.m.

### **ITEM 2: ANNOUNCEMENT**

#### **21 EXCUSES**

2.1.1 The Chairman informed Members that the following persons had asked to be excused from the Meeting:

- Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P;
- Mrs. Philomena Sahoye- Shurry, C.C.H., J.P., and
- Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P.

### **ITEM 3: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS**

3.1 The following documents were circulated prior to the Meeting:-

- (i) Notice of the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting dated 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2010;
- (ii) Minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2010;
- (iii) Matrix showing the amended paragraph of the First Schedule; and
- (iv) The Committee's Report.

### **ITEM 4: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD ON 20<sup>TH</sup> January, 2010.**

#### **4.1 Page 5, Paragraph 7.1.2**

4.1.1 Deletion of the word "by" after the word "consultation" in the final line.

4.2 **Page 1 of the Matrix: Orthopaedic Technology.**

4.2.1 Re-wording of the paragraph to read as follows:

***Orthotics and Prosthetics:***

***The practice of Orthotics and prosthetics aims to provide comprehensive care including patient assessment, formulation of treatment plan, implementation of treatment plan and follow up. Orthotics is concerned with the design, development, fitting and manufacturing of orthoses, which are devices that support or correct musculoskeletal deformities. Prosthetists work with those who have amputations due to accidents, congenital birth problems, or disabling diseases, restoring physiological function and/or cosmesis.***

4.3 The Minutes were thereafter confirmed, as corrected, on a motion moved and seconded by Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P., and Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P., respectively.

**ITEM 5: MATTERS ARISING**

5.1 There were no matters arising out of the minutes.

**ITEM 6: ADDITIONAL AMENDMENTS TO THE BILL.**

6.1 Mr. Kumar, the Legal Expert, informed the Committee that the word "Allied" was omitted in various sections of the Bill and would be corrected. He also highlighted the following amendments to the Bill.

**6.2 Page 1, Section 1**

6.2.1 Insertion of the words "*and Commencement*" after the words "Short title".

**6.3 Page 4, PRELIMINARY**

6.3.1 Re-wording of the paragraph to read as follows:

***"This Act may be cited as the Allied Health Professions Act 2010 and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may by order appoint"***

**6.4 Page 15, Section 33 (d): MISCELLANEOUS**

6.4.1 The word "Medex" should not be capitalized.

- 6.4.2 Insertion of the following as marginal notes “No. 19 of 1978” after the marginal notes “No.16 of 1996”.

**Page 18; FIRST SCHEDULE**

- 6.5 Insertion of the word “Allied” before the word “Health” on pages 18 and 28 of the Bill.

**6.6 Page 26 and 27; SECOND SCHEDULE**

- 6.6.1 Substitution of the number “2010” for the number “2009” in both Certificates.

- 6.7 The Committee agreed that Mr. Kumar (Legal Expert) would make the agreed amendments to the Allied Health Professions Bill and submit same to the Clerk of the Committee to be appended to the Report.

**ITEM 7 CONSIDERATION OF THE COMMITTEE’S REPORT**

- 7.1 Paragraphs 1 to 6 were considered and accepted as presented.

**7.2 Paragraph 7:**

- 7.2.1 Substitution of the number “9” for the number “10”.

- 7.3 Paragraphs 8 to 21 were considered and accepted as presented. .

**7.4 Paragraph 22:**

- 7.4.1 Insertion of the numbers “8<sup>th</sup>” and the number “7<sup>th</sup>” and the insertion of the date “27<sup>th</sup> January, 2010” after the date “ 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2010” in paragraph 22.

**7.5 Paragraph 23:**

- 7.5.1 Re-wording of the paragraph to read as follow:

***“The First Schedule was amended as follows:”***

- 7.6 Paragraph 24 was considered and accepted as presented. .

- 7.7           **Paragraph 25:**
- 7.7.1         Re-wording of the paragraph to read:
- “The Second Schedule was amended as follows:  
Forms 2, 3 and 4”.*
- 7.8           Paragraph 26 was considered and accepted as presented.
- 7.9           **Paragraph 27:**
- 7.9.1         Deletion of the date 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2010.
- 7.10          Paragraphs 28 to 30 were considered and accepted as presented.
- 7.11          After the examination of the report the Committee agreed that a copy of the amended Allied Health Professions Bill would be appended to the Report.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 3.50 p.m. the meeting was *sine die*.

*Confirmed this ..... day of March, 2010*

  
.....  
*The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.*  
*Minister of Health*  
*Chairman*

**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION  
OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA (2006- 2010)**

**MINUTES OF THE  
10<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE  
ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL – BILL NO. 15 OF 2009  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH, 2010  
AT 3.10 P.M.  
IN THE COMMITTEES ROOM NO. 1, COMMITTEES DIVISION,  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN**

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE (10)**

**CHAIRMAN (1)**

**((Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)**

**(Elected by the Committee on 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2009)**

The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.,  
Minister of Health

**From the People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C) (6)**

**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)**

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R. A. Westford, M.P.,  
Minister of Public Services

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P., - Absent  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shurry, C.C.H., J.P., M.P. - Excused

Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P., - Absent

Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P.,

**From the People's National Congress Reform- 1 Guyana (PNC-1G) (3)**

**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)**

Mrs. Deborah J, Backer, M.P. - Excused

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P. - Excused

Dr. John Austin, M.P. - Excused

**From the Alliance For Change (AFC) (1)**

**(Nominated by the Committee of Selection on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009)**

Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P. - Excused

## **Officers**

Ms. Sherene Warren  
Mr. Nickalai Pryce

- Clerk of Committees  
- Assistant Clerk of Committees

## **In attendance:**

Mr. Saji Kumar

-Legal Expert (Attorney General Chambers)

### **ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3.10 p.m.

### **ITEM 2: ANNOUNCEMENT**

#### **21 Excuses**

2.1.1 The Chairman informed Members that the following persons had asked to be excused from the Meeting:

- Mrs. Philomena Sahoye- Shurry, C.C.H., J.P., and
- Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

### **ITEM 3: CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS**

3.1 The following documents were circulated prior to the Meeting:-

- (i) Notice of the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting dated 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2010;
- (ii) Minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2010;
- (iii) The Draft Committees Report on the Allied Health Professions Bill 2009; and
- (iv) Record of Proceeding of the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Special Select Committee on the Allied Health Professions Bill.

3.2 The following document was circulated at the meeting:

- Record of Proceeding of the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Special Select Committee on the Allied Health Professions Bill.

- ITEM 4: CORRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 9<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD ON 3<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY, 2010.**
- 4.1 **Page 2, Officers**
- 4.1.1 Substitution of the word “attendance” for the word “attendances” in the *heading*.
- 4.2 **Page 4, Paragraph 6.7: SECOND SCHEDULE**
- 4.2.1 Substitution of the words “Legal Expert” for the words “Legal Expect” in the *first line*.
- 4.3 The Minutes were then confirmed, as corrected, on a motion moved and seconded by Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P., and Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P., respectively.
- ITEM 5: MATTERS ARISING**
- 5.1 There were no matters arising out of the minutes.
- ITEM 6: CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT REPORT OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL 2009 – BILL NO. 15 OF 2009.**
- 6.1 The Committee proceeded to consider the report paragraph by paragraph.
- 6.2 **Paragraphs 1 to 6 were accepted as presented.**
- 6.3 **Paragraph 7:**
- 6.3.1 The following amendment was made:-  
Substitution of the number “8” for the number “10”.
- 6.3.2 Paragraph 7 was then accepted as amended.
- 6.3 **Paragraph 8 was accepted as presented.**
- 6.4 Paragraphs 12 to 19 were renumbered as **paragraphs 9 to 16**.
- 6.5 **Paragraphs 9 to 12 were accepted as presented.**



**6.6 Paragraph 13:**

6.6.1 The following amendments were made to the paragraphs showing the amended and unaltered clauses:-

*“The following clauses were amended by the Committee:-  
1, 2, 4, 7, 22, 25, 28, 31 and 33.*

*The following clauses were unaltered:-  
3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 29, 30,  
32, 34, 35, 36 and 37.”*

6.6.2 Paragraph 13 was then accepted as amended.

**6.7 Paragraph 14:**

6.7.1 The following amendment was made:-

Substitution of the date “31<sup>st</sup> March, 2010” for the date “3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2010” in line 1.

6.7.2 Paragraph 14 was then accepted as amended.

**6.8 Paragraph 15:**

6.8.1 Insertion of a new paragraph 15 to read as follows:

*“**Appended Bill**  
Appendix VI is the amended Bill which reflects the changes  
detailed and outlined in Appendix IV.”*

6.8.2 The new paragraph 15 was then accepted as presented.

**6.9 Paragraphs 15 and 16** were renumbered as 16 and 17

The new paragraphs 16 and 17 were then accepted as presented.

6.10 Appendices I to V was accepted as presented.

**Appendix VI – Amended Bill**

6.11. The Committee proceeded to consider the appended Bill which reflected the changes incorporated by Mr. Saji Kumar, Legal Expert, Attorney General Chambers.

- 6.11.1**            **Clauses 1- 6** were accepted as presented.
- 6.11.2**            **Clause 7:**
1.        Insertion of the words “and Deputy Chairperson” after the word “Chairperson” in the *marginal notes*.
  2.        Insertion of the words “and another member as the Deputy Chairperson” after the word “Chairperson” in the first line.
- 6.11.2.1            Clause 7 was then accepted as amended.
- 6.11.3**            **Clauses 8 to 21** was accepted as presented.
- 6.11.4**            **Clause 22:**
- 6.11.4.1            The following amendment was made to clause 22 (c) :-
- Insertion of the words “other punishment” after the words “in addition to any” in the *line 3*.
- 6.11.4.2            Clause 22 was then accepted as amended.
- 6.11.5**            **Clauses 23 and 24** were then accepted as presented.
- 6.11.6**            **Clause 25:**
- 6.11.6.1            The following amendment was made to clause 25(1):-
- Substitution of the word “condition” for the word “penalty” in the *last line*.
- 6.11.6.2            Clause 25 was then accepted as amended.
- 6.11.6.3            **Clauses 26 and 27** were accepted as presented.
- 6.11.7**            **Clause 28:**
- 6.11.7.1            The following amendment was made to clause 28 (b):-
- Substitution of the following paragraph for clause 28 (b):-

*“who fails to display his certificate of registration and licence which he is required to display under this Act, commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction, in the case of a first offence, to a fine of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars and imprisonment for nine months, and in the case of every continuing offence, to an additional fine of twenty five thousand dollars for every day on which the offence continues after conviction.”*

6.11.7.2 Clause 28 was then accepted as amended.

**6.11.8 Clause 29:**

6.11.8.1 The clause was redrafted as follows:

*“Whoever, in any case in which a penalty is not expressly provided by this Act, fails to comply with any notice, order, direction or requisition issued under any provision of this Act or otherwise contravenes any of the provisions of this Act, shall be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine of fifty thousand dollars, and, in the case of every continuing offence, to an additional fine of ten thousand dollars for every day on which the offence continues after conviction.”*

6.11.8.2 Clause 29 was then accepted as amended.

6.11.9 **Clause 30** was accepted as presented.

**6.11.10 Clause 31:**

**6.11.10.1** The following amendment was made:-

Insertion of the number “28 or” before the number “29” in the *line 1*.

6.11.10.2 Clause 31 was then accepted as amended.

6.11.11 **Clause 32** was accepted as presented.

**6.11.12 Clause 33:**

6.11.12.1 The following amendments were made:-

1. Subsection (b):  
Insertion of the year “1991” at the end of the sentence.
2. Subsection (c):  
Insertion of the year “1996” at the end of the sentence.

**6.11.12.2** Clause 33 was then accepted as amended.

**6.11.13** **Clauses 34 to 37** were accepted as presented.

**6.14** Thereafter, the Committee adopted the Report including appendices and agreed that the Report on the Allied Health Professions Bill 2009 – Bill No.15 of 2009 be presented to the National Assembly on the 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2010.

## **CONCLUSION**

At 3.50 p.m. the meeting was concluded.

*(Unconfirmed)*

# Appendix VI

**GUYANA**

**BILL No. 15 of 2009**

**ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL 2009**

**ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS**

**SECTION**

CHAPTER I

PRELIMINARY

1. Short title ***and commencement.***
2. ***Interpretation.***

CHAPTER II

ESTABLISHMENT OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS COUNCIL

3. Establishment of Allied Health Professions Council.
4. Composition of Council.
5. Tenure of members of Council.
6. Vacancies, etc., not to invalidate proceedings of Council.
7. Chairperson ***and Deputy Chairperson*** of Council.
8. Procedure by Council.
9. Resignation of Chairperson and members of Council.
10. Disqualifications.
11. Committees of Council.
12. Functions of Council.
13. Powers of Council.

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#### REGISTRATION AND LICENSING OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

14. Registration and licensing of allied health professionals.
15. Transitional provisions.
16. Certificate of registration of an allied health professional.
17. Annual Registration of licensed allied health professionals.
18. Registration in respect of higher or additional qualification.
19. Publication of registration.
20. Copy of registration certificate and annual licence to be displayed.

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#### DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS BY COUNCIL

21. Disciplinary proceedings by Council.
22. Penalty by Council.
23. Publication of decision.
24. Surrender of certificate of registration and annual licence.
25. Restoration of name in the Register.
26. Appeal.
27. Power of Minister to suspend decision or order of Council.

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28. Offences.
29. General Penalty.
30. Possession or control of allied health profession appliance, etc.
31. **Fines to be paid to Council.**
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CHAPTER VI  
MISCELLANEOUS

33. Allied health service performed by a person in training.
34. Fees and revenues of Council.
35. Protection of action taken in good faith.
36. Power of Minister to amend First Schedule.
37. Power to make regulations.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

SECOND SCHEDULE.



# ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL 2009

## A BILL

Intituled

AN ACT to provide for registration of members of allied health professions supplementary to the medical profession, regulation of practice of allied health professions and allied health services, to provide for maintenance of professional standards for allied health professions and allied health services and to make provisions for training of members of those professions and services and for related purposes.

A.D. 2010

Enacted by the Parliament of Guyana:

### CHAPTER I

#### PRELIMINARY

Short title *and*  
*commencement.*

1. This Act may be cited as the Allied Health Professions Act 2010 *and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may by Order appoint.*

Interpretation.

2. *In this Act-*

First Schedule.

(a) *“allied health profession” means any profession specified in the First Schedule;*

(b) *“allied health professional” means a person whose name appears on the Register and is for the time being allowed to practise as such;*

First Schedule.

(c) *“allied health services” means such services as are performed by members of an allied health profession specified in the First Schedule;*

(d) *“Council” means the Allied Health Professions Council established under section 3;*

(e) *“Minister” means the Minister responsible for Health;*

(f) *“prescribed” means prescribed by regulations made by the Council with the approval of the Minister;*

(g) *“Register” means the Register of Allied Health Professionals kept and maintained by the Council under section 17 (2);*

(h) *“Secretary” means the person for the time being performing the functions of Secretary to the Council.*

### CHAPTER II

#### ESTABLISHMENT OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS COUNCIL

Establishment of Allied  
Health Professions  
Council.

3. (1) The Minister may, by Order, establish a Council to be known as the Allied Health Professions Council for the purposes of this Act.

(2) The Council shall be a body corporate.

- Composition of Council. 4. (1) The Council shall consist of the following eleven members, namely-
- (a) the Chief Medical Officer who shall be an *ex officio* member of the Council;
  - (b) two allied health professionals from among the allied health professions listed in the First Schedule appointed by the Minister;
  - (c) six members, being allied health professionals, appointed by the Minister on the recommendation of organisations representing allied health professions listed in the First Schedule;
  - (d) two persons from among consumer organisations who are not allied health professionals appointed by the Minister **after consultation with the organisations.**
- First Schedule.
- First Schedule.
- (2) Where a sufficient number of persons representing organisations referred to in subsection (1) (c) are not available for appointment, the Minister shall appoint any health professional instead.
- Tenure of members of Council. 5. (1) The members of the Council, other than the Chief Medical Officer, shall hold office for two years, but shall be eligible for re-appointment.
- (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), no member of the Council other than the Chief Medical Officer shall hold office for more than two consecutive terms, but such member shall be eligible for re-appointment after the expiration of one year of ceasing to become a member.
- Vacancies, etc., not to invalidate proceedings of Council. 6. (1) Subject to a quorum, no act or proceeding of the Council shall be invalid merely by reason of any-
- (a) vacancy in, or defect in the constitution of the Council; or
  - (b) defect in the appointment of a person acting as a member of the Council; or
  - (c) irregularity in the procedure of the Council not affecting the merits of the case.
- (2) Any vacancy in the Council other than that of the Chief Medical Officer shall be filled by a member who shall, subject to the provisions of this Act, hold the office as such for the remainder of the period of the vacancy.
- Chairperson **and Deputy Chairperson** of Council. 7. The Minister may nominate a member of the Council to act as the Chairperson **and another member as the Deputy Chairperson** of the first constituted Council, initially for a period of two years.
- Procedure by Council. 8. (1) The Council shall elect from among the members, a Chairperson and a Deputy Chairperson for a term of two years and each person shall be eligible for

re-election.

(2) The Deputy Chairperson, in the absence of the Chairperson, shall preside over a meeting of the Council.

(3) In the absence of the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson, the Council shall elect any other member present to preside over a meeting of the Council.

(4) A member of the Council shall not attend a meeting of the Council or take part in any deliberation in respect of any matter in which he has direct or indirect pecuniary or other interest.

(5) The Council shall take a decision on the basis of a majority and the quorum of a meeting shall be five members.

(6) The Council shall regulate its own procedure.

(7) The Chairman and other members of the Council shall be entitled to such fees or allowances as may be determined by the Council with the approval of the Minister.

Resignation of  
Chairperson and  
members of Council.

**9.** (1) The Chairperson of the Council may resign by writing under his hand addressed to the Minister and from the date of acceptance of the resignation, he shall cease to be the Chairperson of the Council.

(2) A member of the Council may at any time resign from the Council in writing addressed to the Chairperson and from the date of acceptance of the resignation, he shall cease to be a member of the Council.

(3) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, the Minister may at any time revoke the appointment of the Chairperson or any member of the Council:

Provided that the Minister shall give the Chairperson or member an opportunity of being heard and shall also consult the respective organisation in the case of a member appointed under section 4 (1) (c) prior to such revocation.

Disqualifications.

**10.** No person shall be a member of the Council if he-

(a) is, or becomes, of unsound mind or is so declared by a competent court;

(b) is, or has been, convicted of an offence, which in the opinion of the Minister, involves moral turpitude;

(c) is, or at any time has been, adjudicated as an insolvent;

(d) ceases to be a registered allied health professional in the case of a person referred to in section 4 (1) (b) or (c).

Committees of Council. **11.** The Council may-

- (a) appoint committees comprising members of the Council and of the medical or health professionals for the purpose of carrying out its functions.
- (b) delegate to the committees any functions as it considers necessary.

Functions of Council. **12.** (1) The Council shall-

- (a) prescribe the qualifications that are necessary for persons to be registered as allied health professionals;
- (b) maintain a list of registered allied health professionals;
- (c) implement an annual licensing procedure and maintain a list of licensed allied health professionals;
- (d) promote continuing health related education and training so as to enhance the skills and proficiencies of allied health professionals;
- (e) advise the Minister, where necessary, on any matter relating or incidental to-
  - (i) the performance of the specified allied health services in Guyana; and
  - (ii) the maintenance of high standards of those services; and
- (f) undertake such other functions as may be assigned to it by the Minister from time to time.

(2) As soon as practicable after the beginning of each year, the Council shall submit to the Minister a report of its activities for the preceding year.

Powers of Council. **13.** The Council shall have the power to-

- (a) issue a certificate of registration to a person who holds the necessary qualifications to be a registered allied health professional;
- (b) record the names and details of persons who hold the necessary qualifications as registered allied health professionals in the Register;
- (c) manage the processing of annual licensing of allied health professionals who

are eligible to practice upon any terms as may be prescribed:

(d) maintain a Register of licensed practitioners;

(e) suspend or revoke the registration, refuse to grant, suspend or revoke the annual licence and remove the names and details of persons who have become disqualified to be registered or to practise in an allied health profession or allied health service;

(f) issue any notice, order, direction or requisition generally or for a specified purpose to a person practising in an allied health profession or an allied health service;

(g) charge fees for any services rendered under this Act;

(h) publish the following lists before the end of February each year-

(i) list of currently registered allied health professionals;

(ii) list of currently registered allied health professionals who are licensed to practise for that year; and

(i) exercise any other powers as may be assigned to it by the Minister for the maintenance of professional standards in allied health professions and allied health services.

#### CHAPTER III

### REGISTRATION AND LICENSING OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Registration and  
licensing of allied health  
professionals.

**14.** Subject to the provisions of this Act, any person who satisfies the Council that he is able to read, write, speak and understand English language and who—

- (a) holds a degree, diploma, membership, licence, certificate or other status or form of recognition by a university, institution, college or body empowered to provide training in any allied health profession and shows evidence of satisfactory completion of qualification and training in that profession; and
- (b) is a fit and proper person to practise as an allied health professional in Guyana,

Form 1  
Second Schedule.

shall, upon submission of the sworn declaration in Form 1 in the Second Schedule and payment of the prescribed fee, be entitled, with the approval of the Council, to be registered as an allied health professional to practise any allied health service listed in the First Schedule.

First Schedule.

- Transitional provisions. **15.** (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in section 14, a person who -
- (a) holds a degree, diploma, membership, licence, certificate or other status or form of recognition by a university, institution, college or body empowered to provide training in any allied health profession and shows evidence of satisfactory completion of qualification and training in that profession; and
  - (b) has been engaged in the performance of an allied health profession or allied health service in Guyana for not less than ten years immediately preceding the date of commencement of this Act,

First Schedule. shall be entitled to be registered as an allied health professional in any allied health service listed in the First Schedule on an application by the person subject to the other provisions of this Act and other conditions as may be imposed by the Council.

(2) An application for registration under subsection (1) shall be made to the Secretary in the form and manner as may be determined by the Council.

(3) The Council may require a person referred to in subsection (1) to undergo any training or subject that person to any test or examination in all or any of the subjects relating to the qualification or training possessed by him within such time as may be fixed by it.

(4) Where the Council proposes to subject an applicant to a test or examination under subsection (3), it shall, as soon as practicable, cause the applicant to be notified of its decision.

(5) For the purpose of any test or examination under subsection (3), the Council shall appoint a Board of Examiners, consisting of not less than two and not more than three registered active allied health professionals of not less than ten years experience in the relevant health profession.

(6) The test or examination under subsection (3) shall be conducted in the manner and on receipt of such fee as may be prescribed.

(7) Where the Board of Examiners reports to the Council that a candidate has been unsuccessful in a test or examination under this section, he shall not, unless the Board so recommends, be permitted to present himself for further test or examination until the expiration of six months from the date of the first examination.

(8) A person who is unsuccessful in a test or examination under this section shall, before being permitted to present himself for further test or examination, comply with further conditions as the Council may impose, including the

payment of further fee as it may determine.

(9) The Board of Examiners shall, as soon as practicable after the test or examination, report its findings to the Council.

(10) For the purposes of registration under this section, the Council may impose general or special conditions and restrictions as it may deem fit considering the nature of allied health profession or allied health service the person may perform.

(11) The Council shall publish annually the list of registered allied health professionals in the *Gazette* and in daily newspapers.

Certificate of registration of an allied health professional.

**16.** (1) A person who fulfills the qualifications referred to in section 14 or 15 may apply to the Council for a certificate of registration as an allied health professional in the manner and on payment of the fee as may be prescribed.

Form 2  
Second Schedule.

(2) The Secretary shall issue every registered allied health professional a certificate of registration in Form 2 in the Second Schedule.

Annual registration of licensed allied health professionals.

**17.** (1) Where the Council is satisfied that an applicant for an annual licence to practise as an allied health professional fulfills the requirements under this Act, including continuing professional education credits specified by it, the Secretary shall issue him a licence, in Form 3 in the Second Schedule, to practise on an annual basis on payment of the fee as may be prescribed.

Form 3  
Second Schedule.

Form 4  
Second Schedule.

(2) The Council shall publish, keep and maintain the Register in Form 4 in the Second Schedule in which the Secretary shall cause to be entered the name and other particulars of every person licensed to practise as an allied health professional in the allied health service.

(3) The annual Register shall at all reasonable times be open to inspection at the office of the Council by an allied health professional, the general public or any other person authorised by the Minister.

(4) The annual licence may be renewed on payment of the fee prescribed and on satisfaction of the conditions as may be prescribed.

Registration in respect of higher or additional qualification.

**18.** Where an allied health professional possesses or obtains a qualification approved by the Council higher than or additional to that in respect of which he is to be or has been registered, his name shall be registered in respect of that higher or additional qualification without any payment of fee.

Publication of registration.

**19.** The Council shall cause to be published in the *Gazette* upon registration, the name, address, registration number and other details of the allied health professional and the details of the allied health profession and allied health service for which that person has been registered and a copy of the *Gazette* shall

be conclusive proof of evidence of registration of the allied health professional in respect of that allied health profession and allied health service.

Copy of registration certificate and annual licence to be displayed.

**20.** The allied health professional shall display a copy of the certificate of registration and annual licence in any conspicuous place within the premises of his practice and they shall be available for inspection to any officer of the Council or any patient or his agent on request.

#### CHAPTER IV

### DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS BY COUNCIL

Disciplinary proceedings by Council.

**21.** Where the Council is satisfied that an allied health professional who-

- (a) is convicted of an offence outside Guyana which if committed in Guyana would be punishable on indictment;
- (b) is convicted of an offence referred to in paragraph (a) in Guyana; or
- (c) is guilty of professional misconduct or malpractice in Guyana or in any other country.

it may initiate disciplinary proceedings against him upon a complaint or on its own motion.

Penalty by Council.

**22.** In any proceeding under section 21, if the Council is satisfied that the allied health professional has committed an offence or is guilty of professional misconduct or malpractice and it is expedient and in the interest of public health to take appropriate action, it may –

- (a) censure him;
- (b) suspend his licence to practise for a period of time to be determined by the Council but not less than one year; or
- (c) remove his name from the Register for a period to be determined by the Council but not less than one year.

in addition to any **other punishment** that may be imposed on him:

Provided that the allied health professional shall be afforded an opportunity of being heard before any action is taken against him.

Publication of decision.

**23.** The Secretary shall, as soon as practicable, cause to be published in the *Gazette*, the decision of the Council under section 22.



Surrender of certificate of registration and annual licence.

**24.** Where the name of an allied health professional is suspended or removed from the Register under section 22, the Council shall, in writing, require him to surrender his certificate of registration and annual licence to practise.

Restoration of name in the Register.

**25.** (1) An allied health professional whose name has been removed from the Register under section 22 may apply for restoration of his name in the Register after the expiration of one year from the date of the removal and on such **condition** as may be imposed by the Council.

(2) An application for restoration shall be treated as an application under section 14 or 15, as the case may be, and the provisions of sections 16 and 17 shall apply in relation to the restoration.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the Council may, at any time on its own motion for reasons recorded in writing, restore the name to the Register removed under section 22.

Appeal.

**26.** Any person dissatisfied with any order or decision of the Council may appeal to the Minister within thirty days from the date of receipt of the order or decision.

Power of Minister to suspend decision or order of Council.

**27.** The Minister may direct that the impugned order or decision of the Council be suspended pending a final decision on an appeal under section 26.

## CHAPTER V

### OFFENCES

Offences.

**28.** (1) Any person-

(a) who practises an allied health profession and allied health service mentioned in the First Schedule without the certificate of registration and annual licence under this Act intentionally or recklessly-

(i) uses any name, title or other description implying or calculated to imply that he is recognised by law to practise any **allied** health profession and **allied** health service;

(ii) assumes or uses any suffix or prefix to his name indicative of any occupational designation relating to the practice of any allied health profession and allied health service;

(iii) advertises or holds himself out as a person authorised or qualified to practise any allied health profession and allied health service;

(iv) engages in the practice of any allied health

- profession and allied health service;
- (v) claims to be registered under this Act or holds himself out as being registered under this Act;
- (vi) claims to be licensed to practice any **allied** health profession in any **allied** health service;
- (vii) carries out any act which is required to be carried out by a registered allied health professional by or under this Act; or

(b) who fails to display his certificate of registration and licence which he is required to display under this Act,

**commits** an offence and **is** liable on summary conviction, in the case of a first offence, to a fine of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars and imprisonment for nine months, and in the case of every continuing offence, to an additional fine of **twenty five** thousand dollars **for every day on which the offence continues after conviction.**

General penalty.

**29.** Whoever, in any case in which a penalty is not expressly provided by this Act, fails to comply with any notice, order, direction or requisition issued under any provision of this Act or otherwise contravenes any of the provisions of this Act, shall be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine of fifty thousand dollars, and, in the case of every continuing **offence**, to an additional fine of **ten** thousand dollars **for every day on which the offence continues after conviction.**

Possession or control of allied health profession appliance, etc.

**30.** (1) Subject to subsection (3), no person shall possess or control any appliance or equipment or other device used or intended to be used for practising an allied health profession and allied health service unless he is registered as an allied health professional under this Act.

(2) For the purpose of subsection (1), any express or implied possession or control of any appliance or equipment or other device by a person shall be *prima facie* evidence of practising an allied health profession and allied health service.

(3) Nothing under subsection (1) shall apply to the possession or control of any appliance or equipment normally used by an allied health professional or other device by a person who is –

(a) a dealer, manufacturer, importer or seller;

No. 16 of 1991.  
No. 16 of 1996.  
No. 19 of 1978.

(b) registered under the Medical Practitioners Act 1991, the Dental Registration Act 1996 or the Medex Act 1978;

(c) acting under the instructions of a person registered under the Acts referred to in paragraph (b);

(d) otherwise permitted by the Council to possess such appliance or equipment or other device.

Fines to be paid to Council.

**31.** A court trying an offence under section **28 or** 29 shall order that the amount of fine be paid to the Council.

Search and seizure.

**32.** Any magistrate who is satisfied, by proof upon oath, that there is reasonable ground for believing that there is, in any building, ship, carriage, box, receptacle or place, any appliance, equipment or other device which will afford evidence as to the commission of an offence under this Act, he may issue a warrant under his hand authorising any member of the police force named in the warrant to enter and search the building or premises and to seize such appliance, equipment or other device and the provisions of the Summary Jurisdiction (Procedure) Act shall apply in relation to a search warrant issued under this section.

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#### CHAPTER VI MISCELLANEOUS

Allied health service performed by a person in training.

**33.** Nothing in this Act shall prevent the performance of any allied health service in any allied health profession by a person in training if those services are performed under the direct supervision and control of -

No. 16 of 1991.  
No. 16 of 1996.  
No. 19 of 1978.

- (a) an allied health professional registered in the relevant health profession and health service;
- (b) a medical practitioner under the Medical Practitioners Act **1991**;
- (c) a dental practitioner under the Dental Registration Act **1996**;
- (d) a medex under the Medex Act 1978.

Fees and revenues of Council.

**34.** Any expense incurred by the Council in the discharge of its functions under this Act shall be defrayed out of the fees, fines and revenues collected or received by it or out of moneys provided by the National Assembly.

Protection of action taken in good faith.

**35.** A member of the Council, the Secretary or any person acting under the authority of the Council under this Act shall not be liable to any loss, damage, claim or be subjected to any legal action for anything that is done in good faith.

Power of Minister to amend First Schedule.

**36.** The Minister may, by Order, amend the First Schedule so as to include or exclude any allied health profession and allied health service for the purpose of regulating it under this Act.

Power to make regulations.

**37.** (1) The Council may, with the approval of the Minister, make regulations for giving effect to and for carrying out the provisions of this Act, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the regulations may prescribe -

- (a) the qualifications for admission of persons for training in any allied

health profession and allied health service:

(b) the fees payable for registration as allied health professionals under this Act and fee payable for annual licence to practise;

(c) the course and programme of training and the curricula of study to be followed in the preparation of persons for registration as allied health professionals in any allied health profession and allied health service;

(d) the manner in which tests or examinations are conducted and other related matters;

(e) the examinations to be passed and other requirements to be satisfied, whether in addition to or as an alternative to the passing of tests or examinations by persons applying for registration as allied health professionals;

(f) the nature of the services which may be rendered by allied health professionals in any allied health profession and allied health service;

(g) the standards of professional conduct, ethics and general fitness to practise any allied health profession and allied health service;

(h) the procedure for disciplinary proceedings in relation to any charge, and the manner in which such proceedings shall be conducted;

(i) the manner and procedure by which establishments and maintenance of centres shall be conducted for the education and training of persons desiring to be trained in any allied health profession and allied health service;

(j) the manner and procedure by which special boards or committees for any allied health profession and allied health service to achieve highest standards of qualifications shall be formed and to determine the functions of members of such boards or committees and any fee payable to the members of such boards or committees; and

(k) any other matter which may be regulated, prescribed or done by regulations.

**FIRST SCHEDULE**

[S. 2 (a) and (e)]

**ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS AND ALLIED HEALTH SERVICES**

Allied Health Profession	Allied Health profession and allied health services
<p><b>1. Acupuncture Therapy</b></p> <p><b>Acupuncturist</b></p>	<p>The practice of acupuncture therapy is the stimulation of “acu-points” (points on or near the surface of the body) by the insertion of needles to prevent or modify the perception of pain or to normalise physiological functions, including pain control for the treatment of certain diseases or dysfunctions of the body, and includes the techniques of electro-acupuncture, cupping and moxibustion.</p> <p>In the course of engaging in the practice of acupuncture therapy as an <b>acupuncturist</b> a person may, subject to terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of registration, perform or prescribe the use of oriental massage, acupuncture, moxibustion, breathing technique, exercise or nutrition, including the incorporation of drugless substances and herbs as dietary supplements to promote health.</p>
<p><b>2. Audiology and Speech Language Pathology</b></p> <p><b>(a) Audiologist</b></p> <p><b><u>(b) Audiological Practitioner</u></b></p> <p><b>(c) Speech Language Pathologist</b></p>	<p>The practice of audiology means the practice of conducting measurement, testing and evaluation relating to hearing and vestibular systems, including audiologic and electrophysiological measures, and conducting programs of identification, hearing conservation, habilitation and rehabilitation for the purpose of identifying disorders related to hearing loss, including but not limited to vestibular evaluation, electrophysiological audiometry and cochlear implants.</p> <p>The practice includes the treatment and prevention of auditory dysfunction and to develop, maintain, rehabilitate or augment auditory and communicative functions. Any person offering the above services is an <b>audiologist</b> and subject to terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of registration, perform the functions outlined above.</p> <p><b><u>Audiological practitioner conducts hearing test, hearing aid evaluation and performs fitting of hearing aid. These functions are performed under the supervision of a qualified Audiologist or Audiological Physician.</u></b></p> <p>The practice of speech language pathology means the practice of facilitating development and maintenance of human communication through programs</p>

	<p>of screening, identifying, assessing and interpreting, diagnosing, habilitating and rehabilitating speech-language disorders, including but not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Providing alternative communication systems and instruction and training in the use thereof</li> <li>2. Providing aural habilitation, rehabilitation and counseling services to hearing impaired individuals and their families</li> <li>3. Enhancing speech-language proficiency and communication effectiveness</li> <li>4. Providing audiologic screening</li> </ol> <p>Any person offering the above services is a <b><u>speech language pathologist</u></b>, and subject to terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of registration, can perform the functions outlined above.</p>
<p><b>3. Chiropody and Podiatry</b></p> <p><b>(a) Chiropodist</b></p> <p><b>(b) Podiatrist</b></p>	<p>The practice of chiropody and podiatry is the assessment of the foot, lower limbs and ankle and the treatment and prevention of disease, disorders or dysfunctions of the foot and ankle.</p> <p>In the course of engaging in the practice of chiropody as a <b><u>chiropodist</u></b> a person may, subject to the terms, conditions, and limitations imposed on his certificate of registration, perform the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Assessment and treatment of common foot complaints such as verrucae, corns and calluses</li> <li>(ii) Assessment of the structure, alignment and function of the feet and legs with appropriate treatment such as insoles, stretching and strengthening exercises to correct any abnormality</li> <li>(iii) Nail surgery, using local anaesthetics, to remove ingrown toenails</li> <li>(iv) Management of patients at high risk of foot problems such as diabetes, rheumatoid, arthritis and peripheral vascular diseases</li> <li>(v) Advice on prevention of foot problems and how to keep feet in good health</li> </ol> <p>In the course of engaging in the practice of podiatry as a <b><u>podiatrist</u></b> a person may, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of registration, perform the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Communicate a diagnosis identifying a disease or disorder of the foot and ankle as the cause of the person's symptoms</li> <li>(ii) Assessment and treatment of common foot complaints such as verrucae, corns and calluses</li> <li>(iii) Assessment of the structure, alignment and function of the feet and legs with appropriate treatment such as insoles, stretching and</li> </ol>

	<p>strengthening exercises to correct any abnormality</p> <p>(iv) Nail surgery, using local anaesthetics, to remove ingrown toenails</p> <p>(v) Management of patients at high risk of foot problems such as diabetes, rheumatoid, arthritis and peripheral vascular diseases</p> <p>(vi) Advice on prevention of foot problems and how to keep feet in good health</p>
<p><b>4. Chiropractic Therapy</b></p> <p><b>Chiropractor</b></p>	<p>The practice of chiropractic is the assessment of conditions related to the spine, nervous system and joints and the diagnosis, prevention and treatment, primarily by adjustment of these structures. Such conditions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Dysfunctions or disorders arising from the structure or functions of the spine and the effects of those dysfunctions or disorders on the nervous system, and</li> <li>(b) Dysfunctions or disorders arising from the structures and functions of the joints</li> </ul> <p>In the course of engaging in the practice of <b>chiropractor</b> a person may, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, perform the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Communicating a diagnosis identifying, as the cause of the person's symptoms – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) a disorder arising from the structures and functions of the spine and their effects on the nervous system; or</li> <li>(b) a disorder arising from the structures and functions of the joints of the extremities</li> </ul> </li> <li>(ii) Moving the joints of the spine beyond a person's normal usual physiological range of motion using a fast, low amplitude thrust.</li> <li>(iii) Putting a finger beyond the anal verge for the purpose of manipulating the coccyx.</li> </ul>
<p><b>5. Clinical Psychology</b></p> <p><b>Clinical Psychologist</b></p>	<p>The practice of psychology is the assessment of behavioural and mental conditions, the diagnosis of neuropsychological disorders and dysfunctions and the maintenance and enhancement of physical, intellectual, emotional, social and interpersonal functioning.</p> <p>In the course of engaging in the practice of clinical psychology as a <b>clinical psychologist</b> a person may, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his certificate of practice, communicate a diagnosis identifying, as the cause of the person's symptoms, a neuropsychological disorder or dysfunction, a psychosis, a neurosis, a personality disorder or dysfunction or a behavioural, mental or developmental disorder, but does not include the</p>

## MATRIX

**Special Select Committee on the Allied Health Professions Bill- Bill No. 15 of 2009  
Response to Invitation on Written and Oral Presentations  
On the Allied Health Professions Bill 2009**

No.	Agencies/ Individuals	Written documents	Oral Presentation	Sections and Clauses highlighted in their submission	Remarks
1.	Guyana Association for Alternative Medicine	Received documents	indicated a willingness to make an oral presentation	Clause 1(Preliminary), Clause 9 (3) (Resignation of Chairperson and member of Council), Page 18-24 of the Bill (First Schedule)	Highlighted inclusions into the Bill
2.	Guyana Physiotherapy Association	--do--	indicated a willingness to make an oral presentation	Page 18-24 of the Bill (First Schedule)	--do--
3.	The Medical Technologists Association	--do--	indicated a willingness to make an oral presentation	-	--do--
4.	General Nursing Council, Guyana	--do--	**did not indicate a desire to make an oral presentation	Clause 4 (b) (Composition Council), Clause 15 (5)(Transitional provisions), clause 16) (Transitional provisions), Clause 25 (Restoration of name in the Register),Page 18-24 of the Bill (First Schedule)	--do--



- (iii) that each presenter prepare a brief outline of what their presentation to the Committee would be;
- (iv) that the Committee to stagger the presentations; the Chairman informed the Committee that he would assist the Clerk in doing so; and
- (v) that letters be sent to the six presenters to attend the meeting on Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2009, to make oral presentations.

5.1.4 Thereafter, the Chairman advised Members of the Committee to examine the written submissions by the groups so as to formulate questions for the presenters.

**ITEM 7: ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

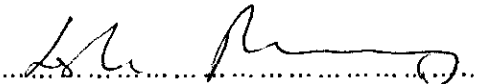
**7.1 Excuses from Meeting**

7.1.1 Mrs. Holder informed the Chairman that she would be out of the jurisdiction in August and as such requested to be excused from the meeting of the Committee on 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2009.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 4 .04 p.m. the meeting was adjourned to the 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2009 at 3.00 pm.

*Confirmed this ... 5<sup>th</sup> ... day of August, 2009*



*The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.  
Minister of Health  
Chairman*