

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT**

**Subject:- REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES, REGULATIONS AND COORDINATION ON THE ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS COUNCIL BILL, 2021**

I, Chairman of the Standing Committee on National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination, have the honor to present this report on the Bill to make the provisions for the establishment of the Allied Health Professionals Council [The Allied Health Professionals Council Bill, 2021] referred to the Committee on 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2021.

2. The Committee comprises the following: -

(1)	<b>Mr. Khalid Hussain Magsi</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
(2)	Dr. Haider Ali Khan	Member
(3)	Mr. Nasir Khan Musazai	Member
(4)	Mr. Jai Parkash	Member
(5)	Raja Khurram Shahzad Nawaz	Member
(6)	Dr. Muhammad Afzal Khan Dhandla	Member
(7)	Dr. Nausheen Hamid	Member
(8)	Ms. Zille Huma	Member
(9)	Ms. Fouzia Behram	Member
(10)	Ms. Aliya Hamza Malik	Member
(11)	Dr. Seemi Bukhari	Member
(12)	Dr. Nisar Ahmad Cheema	Member
(13)	Mr. Mukhtar Ahmad Malik	Member
(14)	Dr. Samina Matloob	Member
(15)	Dr. Darshan	Member
(16)	Mr. Mahesh Kumar Malani	Member
(17)	Dr. Shazia Sobia Aslam Soomro	Member
(18)	Mr. James Iqbal	Member
(19)	Mr. Ramesh Lal	Member
(20)	Ms. Shams-un-Nisa	Member
(21)	Minister In-Charge <i>National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination</i>	Ex-officio Member

3. The Committee considered the Bill as introduced in the National Assembly placed at Annexure-A, in its meetings held on 16<sup>th</sup> August and 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2021. The Committee proposed the following amendments, therein, namely: -

1) **Long title**

In the long title, for the expression, "constitution of Pakistan", the expression "establishment of the" shall be substituted.

2) **Preamble**

The Preamble shall be substituted with the following, namely;

“WHEREAS, it is expedient to establish an Allied Health Professionals Council in Pakistan for the propose of making a uniform standard of basic and higher qualification in various Allied Health disciplines and to consolidate the law relating to the registration of all professionals in various disciplines of Allied Health Professionals;

WHEREAS, it is necessary to regulate education, training, practice, functions and registration of Allied Health Professionals in the Pakistan for public health”.

**3) Clause 1**

In Clause 1, in sub-clause (1), the word “Pakistan”, shall be omitted;

**4) Clause -2**

In Clause 2, in sub-clause (1);

- i) the paragraph (a), shall be substituted with the following, namely;
 

“(a) Allied Health Professionals” or “AHP” means a person who provides diagnostic, therapeutic, preventive, curative or rehabilitative services in health care, in a prescribed manner, and has undergone a prescribed course of training in a recognized institution and is registered as an Allied Health Professional by the body formed for the purpose, as per Schedule-I;”
- ii) the paragraph (b), shall be substituted with the following, namely;
 

“(b) bachelor degree” means any degree, duly recognized by the council, of at least four years duration after higher secondary school granted by a university or an institution;”
- iii) the paragraph (d), shall be substituted with the following, namely;
 

“(d) certificate” means any recognized qualification pursuant to at least a one year training duration granted by an institution recognized by the Council;”
- iv) in paragraph (e), the word “Pakistan” shall be omitted and for the word, “constituted” the word, “established” shall be substituted;
- v) in paragraph (f), the expressions “in Allied Health Profession” shall be omitted;
- vi) in paragraph (g), the expressions “in allied health profession” and expressions “under this Act”, shall be omitted;
- vii) the paragraph (h), shall be substituted with the following, namely;-
 

“(h) “diploma” means any recognized qualification of at least two years or greater duration granted by an institution recognized by the Council to grant such qualification under this act.”
- viii) after paragraph (h), the paragraph (i), shall be omitted and remaining paragraphs shall be renumbered accordingly.
- ix) Re-numbered paragraph (i), shall be substituted with the following;
 

“(i) doctorate degree” means any degree higher than an M. Phill or master degree, recognized by the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan and which is recognized by the council as applicable towards qualifications of an AHP;”
- x) after re-numbered paragraph (j), the following new paragraph (k), shall be inserted and remaining paragraphs shall be renumbered accordingly;
 

“(k) Ex-officio member” means members of the council nominated under clauses (a) and (b) of sub section 3 of section 3of this Act and who shall not have the right to vote or hold an elected position in the council;”
- xi) in re-numbered paragraph (l), after the expression, “as may be declared”, the expression, “as such”, shall be omitted.

- xii) in re-numbered paragraph (m), after the expression, "higher qualification", the expression, "in allied health profession" shall be omitted and the expression "for AHP" shall be inserted at the end.
- xiii) in re-numbered paragraph (n), after the expression, "grant or train" the expression, "or both", shall be omitted and for the expression "in allied health profession" the expression "for AHP" shall be substituted.
- xiv) the re-numbered paragraph (o), shall be substituted with the following, namely;  
 "(o) master degree" means any post graduate degree granted by a university or an institution recognized by the council;"
- xv) in re-numbered paragraph (p), after the expression, "member of the" the expression "Allied Health Professionals" shall be inserted;
- xvi) Re-numbered paragraph (q), shall be substituted with the following, namely:-  
 "(q) M. Phil" means any post-master degree granted by a university or an institution recognized by the council;"
- xvii) after re-numbered paragraph (q), the following new paragraph (r), shall be inserted and the remaining paragraphs shall be renumbered accordingly;  
 "(r) National Medical Authority" means the Authority constituted under section 15 of the Pakistan Medical Commission Act, 2020;
- xviii) in re-numbered paragraph (t), in sub-paragraph (iii), for the expression "deemed to be a" the expression "considered as a" shall be substituted and the expression "for the purposes of this Act" shall be omitted.
- xix) after re-numbered paragraph (t), following new paragraph (u), shall be added, namely:-  
 "(u) List of disciplines" categorized as allied health professional will be as included, added or notifies by the concerned administrative division or Ministry, in Schedule-I to this Act; and shall include disciplines that are formally taught by a recognized institution and are related to patient care."

5)

**Clause -3**

In Clause 3,

- (a) in the marginal note for the expression "Constitution" the expression "Establishment" shall be substituted
- (b) in sub-clause (1), the word "Pakistan" shall be omitted.
- (c) the sub-clause (2), shall be substituted with the following; -

"(2) The head office of the Council shall be in Islamabad and the Council shall establish offices in each Province and may in any other regions as required."

- (d) sub-clause (3) shall be substituted with the following, namely:-

- "(3) The Council shall consist of the following members, namely:-
- a. Director General Health, of the Federal and Provincial Governments (Ex-officio member);
  - b. a Representative of the Medical Corps of the Armed Forces to be nominated by the Surgeon General;
  - c. one health professional to be nominated by each province, GB and AJK Government from the categories at Schedule I from a public or private sector university or affiliated college/institute in the province;
  - d. One health professional to be nominated by the Federal Government from the categories at Schedule I from a public or private sector university or affiliated college in Islamabad Capital Territory;