

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS**

**BILL #:** HB 1651 CS                      Chiropractic Education  
**SPONSOR(S):** Patterson and others  
**TIED BILLS:**                                **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** SB 2640

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REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1) Health Care Regulation Committee	8 Y, 0 N, w/CS	Hamrick	Mitchell
2) Education Appropriations Committee	(W/D)		
3) Health & Families Council		Hamrick	Moore
4) _____	_____	_____	_____
5) _____	_____	_____	_____

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**SUMMARY ANALYSIS**

HB 1651 CS allows a chiropractic college to establish an internship program at a college-based clinic.

The bill amends s. 400.9905, F.S., of the Health Care Clinic Act, to exempt a chiropractic clinic from certain licensure requirements when it is affiliated with an accredited college of chiropractic, and provides training for chiropractic students. The provision is similar to that for clinical facilities affiliated with an accredited medical school.

The bill provides a definition of “chiropractic college clinical internship,” and provides this internship option to chiropractic students. The bill provides the Board of Chiropractic Medicine the authority to adopt rules.

This bill will take effect upon becoming a law.

## FULL ANALYSIS

### I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

#### A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

**Provide limited government-** The bill encourages participation in chiropractic-college based internship programs as an alternative to community-based internships. The bill requires the Board of Chiropractic Medicine to promulgate rules allowing the board to administer the registration of interns.

#### B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

The bill amends s. 400.9905, F.S. of the Health Care Clinic Act, to exempt a chiropractic clinic from certain licensure requirements when it is affiliated with an accredited college of chiropractic, and provides training for chiropractic students. The language in the bill is similar to the exemption provided to clinical facilities affiliated with an accredited medical school, where training is provided for medical students, residents, or fellows.<sup>1</sup>

The bill provides a definition for a “chiropractic college clinical internship.”

The bill provides a chiropractic intern may chose to participate in either a community-based internship or a chiropractic college clinical internship.

The bill authorizes the Board of Chiropractic Medicine to adopt rules necessary to permit chiropractic interns to participate in a chiropractic college clinical internship.

### BACKGROUND

#### Community-based Internship Program

A *community-based internship* is a program in which a student enrolled in the last year of a chiropractic college accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education is approved to obtain required pre-graduation clinical experience in a chiropractic clinic or practice under the direct supervision of a doctor of chiropractic medicine according to the teaching protocols for the clinical practice requirements of the college. The doctor must be approved as an adjunct faculty member of the chiropractic college, in which the student is enrolled,<sup>2</sup>

#### Chiropractic Education

The Council on Chiropractic Education was incorporated in 1971 and is recognized by the United States Secretary of Education as the specialized accrediting agency for the Doctor of Chiropractic Degree Program.<sup>3</sup>

As of January 2005, there are 19 accredited chiropractic sites in the United States, and Palmer College of Chiropractic Florida is the only school accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education Commission on Accreditation in Florida.

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<sup>1</sup> See s. 400.9905(4)(h), F.S.

<sup>2</sup> See s. 460.403(4), F.S.

<sup>3</sup> Council on Chiropractic Education, *About CCE*, available at <http://www.cce-usa.org/CCE%20History.pdf>.

## What is Chiropractic Medicine?

D.D. Palmer (1845-1913) founded the first chiropractic college in Davenport, Iowa.

According to the Palmer School of Chiropractic, the art of chiropractic focuses on adjustments to correct spinal malfunctions (called subluxations), in order to remove interference to the spinal cord and the nerves that exit between the bones of the spine.<sup>4</sup>

Chiropractors focus on the nerve system (the brain and spinal cord) which manages the body's vast chemical interactions to help ensure proper function.<sup>5</sup>

When bones of the spine become misaligned or move out of their normal position, they can distort the flow of information from the brain to the body. Without the proper information from the nerve system, the body cannot function to its full potential. Chiropractors gently correct misalignments (or vertebral subluxations) — to correct interference to the nerve system and the body's ability to control and coordinate its many functions.<sup>6</sup>

### C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

**Section 1.** Amends s. 400.9905, F.S., to provide that the Health Care Clinic Act does not apply to clinical facilities affiliated with a college of chiropractic accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education where training is provided for chiropractic students.

**Section 2.** Amends s. 460.402, F.S., to provide an exception to regulation for chiropractic clinical internships and authorizes the Board of Chiropractic Medicine to adopt rules

**Section 3.** Amends s. 460.403, F.S., to define a "chiropractic college clinical internship."

**Section 4.** Provides the bill will take effect upon becoming a law.

## II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

### A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

#### 1. Revenues:

None.

#### 2. Expenditures:

None.

### B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

#### 1. Revenues:

None.

#### 2. Expenditures:

None.

### C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None.

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<sup>4</sup> Palmer College of Chiropractic, *What is Chiropractic?*, available at <http://admissions.palmer.edu/info/whatis.htm>.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

**III. COMMENTS**

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

This bill does not require counties or municipalities to spend funds or take an action requiring the expenditure of funds. This bill does not reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with counties or municipalities. This bill does not reduce the authority that municipalities have to raise revenue.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

This bill provides the Board of Chiropractic Medicine the necessary authority to adopt rules to permit chiropractic interns to participate in a chiropractic college clinical internship.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

**IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE & COMBINED BILL CHANGES**

On April 13, 2004, the Health Care Regulation Committee considered the bill and adopted an amendment sponsored by Representative Patterson. The Committee Substitute differs from the original bill as filed in that the Committee Substitute:

**Amendment 1-** Removes the legislative intent and authorization for the Board of Chiropractic Medicine to adopt implementing rules. Removes s. 460.4064, F.S., that created the college-based internship program, and provided that any chiropractic student wishing to provide chiropractic treatment as an intern must apply, remit a fee, and register with the Board of Chiropractic Medicine as a chiropractic intern. Removes the requirement that the Board of Chiropractic medicine must certify, register and ensure that a college-based internship program meets specified requirements. Amends current statute to incorporate a definition of "chiropractic college clinical internship," adds that a chiropractic intern may participate in a community-based internship or a chiropractic college clinical internship, and provides the board the authority to adopt rules as necessary to implement these provisions.

The bill, as amended, was reported favorably as a committee substitute.

This analysis is drafted to the committee substitute.