

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to chiropractic medicine; amending s.
3 460.403, F.S.; revising the definition of the term
4 "practice of chiropractic medicine" to include the
5 ordering, storing, possessing, prescribing, and
6 administering of articles of natural origin under
7 certain circumstances by certain chiropractic
8 physicians; authorizing pharmacists to fill the orders
9 of such chiropractic physicians; amending s. 460.408,
10 F.S.; deleting a requirement that all chiropractic
11 continuing education be completed in a classroom
12 setting; prohibiting the Board of Chiropractic
13 Medicine from limiting the number of hours of
14 continuing education a chiropractic physician may
15 complete through distance learning; authorizing the
16 board to make exceptions to continuing education
17 requirements during a declared state of emergency in
18 this state; specifying who may teach board-approved
19 continuing education courses; requiring, rather than
20 authorizing, the board to adopt rules; amending s.
21 460.413, F.S.; revising grounds for disciplinary
22 action to conform to changes made by the act; amending
23 s. 460.4165, F.S.; revising certification requirements
24 for certified chiropractic physician's assistants;
25 providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (9) of section 460.403, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

460.403 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:
 (9) (a) "Practice of chiropractic medicine" means the application of a noncombative principle and practice consisting of the science, philosophy, and art of the adjustment, manipulation, and treatment of the human body to treat any in ~~which~~ vertebral subluxation or subluxations and other malpositioned articulation or structure ~~articulations and structures~~ that is ~~are~~ interfering with the normal generation, transmission, and expression of nerve impulse between the brain, organs, and tissue cells of the body and, ~~thereby~~ causing disease, as applied ~~are adjusted, manipulated, or treated, thus restoring the normal flow of nerve impulse which produces normal function and consequent health~~ by chiropractic physicians using specific chiropractic adjustment or manipulation techniques taught in chiropractic colleges accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education to restore the normal flow of nerve impulse which produces normal function and consequent health. No person other than a licensed chiropractic physician may render chiropractic services, chiropractic adjustments, or chiropractic manipulations.

51 (b) Any chiropractic physician who has complied with ~~the~~
 52 ~~provisions of~~ this chapter may examine, analyze, and diagnose
 53 the human living body and its diseases by the use of any
 54 physical, chemical, electrical, or thermal method; use the X ray
 55 for diagnosing; phlebotomize; and use any other general method
 56 of examination for diagnosis and analysis taught in any school
 57 of chiropractic.

58 (c)1. Chiropractic physicians may adjust, manipulate, or
 59 treat the human body by manual, mechanical, electrical, or
 60 natural methods; by the use of physical means or physiotherapy,
 61 including light, heat, water, or exercise; by the use of
 62 acupuncture; by the use of monofilament intramuscular
 63 stimulation treatment, also known as dry needling, for trigger
 64 points or myofascial pain; or by the administration of foods,
 65 food concentrates, food extracts, and items for which a
 66 prescription is not required and may apply first aid and
 67 hygiene, but chiropractic physicians are expressly prohibited
 68 from prescribing or administering to any person any legend drug
 69 except as authorized under subparagraphs 2. and 3. ~~subparagraph~~
 70 ~~2.~~, from performing any surgery except as stated herein, or from
 71 practicing obstetrics.

72 2. Notwithstanding the prohibition against prescribing and
 73 administering legend drugs under subparagraph 1. or s.
 74 499.83(2)(c), pursuant to board rule, chiropractic physicians
 75 may order, store, and administer prescription medical oxygen,

76 | for emergency purposes only, at the chiropractic physician's
77 | office or place of business, ~~prescription medical oxygen~~ and may
78 | also order, store, and administer the following topical
79 | anesthetics in aerosol form:

80 | a. Any solution consisting of 25 percent ethylchloride and
81 | 75 percent dichlorodifluoromethane.

82 | b. Any solution consisting of 15 percent
83 | dichlorodifluoromethane and 85 percent
84 | trichloromonofluoromethane.

85 | 3. Notwithstanding the prohibition against prescribing and
86 | administering legend drugs under subparagraph 1. or s.

87 | 499.83(2)(c), pursuant to board rule, chiropractic physicians
88 | who have completed a board-approved minimum of a 36-hour
89 | training course may order, store, possess, prescribe, and
90 | administer articles of natural origin, including vitamins,
91 | minerals, amino acids, fatty acids, hyaluronic acid, enzymes,
92 | saline, antioxidants, dextrose, glandulars, cellular components,
93 | extracts, water, botanicals, phytonutrients, and homeopathics,
94 | and may administer medical oxygen as defined in s. 499.82.

95 | Pharmacists licensed under chapter 465 may fill the orders of
96 | chiropractic physicians authorized to prescribe and administer
97 | articles of natural origin necessary for the practice of
98 | chiropractic medicine.

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100 | ~~However, this paragraph does not authorize a chiropractic~~

101 ~~physician to prescribe medical oxygen as defined in s.~~
 102 ~~499.82(10).~~

103 (d) Chiropractic physicians ~~shall~~ have the privileges of
 104 services from the department's laboratories.

105 (e) The term "chiropractic medicine," "chiropractic,"
 106 "doctor of chiropractic," or "chiropractor" is ~~shall be~~
 107 synonymous with "chiropractic physician," and each term must
 108 ~~shall~~ be construed to mean a practitioner of chiropractic
 109 medicine as the same has been defined herein. Chiropractic
 110 physicians may analyze and diagnose the physical conditions of
 111 the human body to determine the abnormal functions of the human
 112 organism and to determine whether such functions ~~as~~ are
 113 abnormally expressed and the cause of such abnormal expression.

114 (f) Any chiropractic physician who has complied with ~~the~~
 115 ~~provisions of~~ this chapter is authorized to analyze and diagnose
 116 abnormal bodily functions and to adjust the physical
 117 representative of the primary cause of disease as is herein
 118 defined and provided. As an incident to the care of the sick,
 119 chiropractic physicians may advise and instruct patients in all
 120 matters pertaining to hygiene and sanitary measures as taught
 121 and approved by recognized chiropractic schools and colleges. A
 122 chiropractic physician may not use acupuncture until certified
 123 by the board. Certification must ~~shall~~ be granted to
 124 chiropractic physicians who have satisfactorily completed the
 125 required coursework in acupuncture and successfully passed ~~after~~

126 ~~successful passage of~~ an appropriate examination ~~as~~ administered
127 by the department. The required coursework must ~~shall~~ have been
128 provided by a college or university ~~which is~~ recognized by an
129 accrediting agency approved by the United States Department of
130 Education.

131 **Section 2. Section 460.408, Florida Statutes, is amended**
132 **to read:**

133 460.408 Continuing chiropractic education.—

134 (1) The board shall require licensees to ~~periodically~~
135 demonstrate their professional competence periodically as a
136 condition of renewal of a license by completing up to 40 ~~contact~~
137 ~~classroom~~ hours of continuing education.

138 (a) Continuing education courses sponsored by board-
139 approved continuing education providers, or by chiropractic
140 colleges whose graduates are eligible for examination under ~~any~~
141 ~~provision of~~ this chapter, may be approved upon review by the
142 board if all other requirements of board rules setting forth
143 criteria for course approval are met.

144 (b) The board shall approve those courses that build upon
145 the basic courses required for the practice of chiropractic
146 medicine, and the board may also approve courses in adjunctive
147 modalities. Courses that include ~~consist of~~ instruction in the
148 use, application, prescription, recommendation, or
149 administration of a specific company's brand of products or
150 services are not eligible for approval.

151 (c) The board may not limit the number of approved
152 continuing education hours that may be completed through
153 distance learning.

154 (2) The board may provide exceptions to ~~make exception~~
155 ~~from~~ the requirements of this section in emergency or hardship
156 cases and during a declared state of emergency in this state.

157 (3) Continuing education courses must be taught by a
158 person who has at least one of the following qualifications:

159 (a) Has a postgraduate degree, or a bachelor's degree with
160 at least 2 years of experience in the subject matter being
161 taught;

162 (b) Is a current faculty member of a chiropractic college
163 or school maintaining standards approved by the board or is a
164 current faculty member at a medical or osteopathic college or a
165 university accredited by, or having status with, an accrediting
166 agency, or its successor, recognized and approved by the United
167 States Department of Education or by the Council for Higher
168 Education Accreditation or its successor; or

169 (c) Is a postgraduate-level instructor at a chiropractic
170 college or school maintaining standards approved by the board or
171 is a postgraduate-level instructor at a medical or osteopathic
172 college or a university accredited by, or having status with, an
173 accrediting agency, or its successor, recognized and approved by
174 the United States Department of Education or by the Council for
175 Higher Education Accreditation or its successor.

176 (4) The board shall ~~may~~ adopt rules necessary to implement
 177 ~~within the requirements of this section that are necessary for~~
 178 ~~its implementation.~~

179 **Section 3. Paragraph (p) of subsection (1) of section**
 180 **460.413, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

181 460.413 Grounds for disciplinary action; action by board
 182 or department.—

183 (1) The following acts constitute grounds for denial of a
 184 license or disciplinary action, as specified in s. 456.072(2):

185 (p) Prescribing, dispensing, or administering any
 186 medicinal drug except as authorized by s. 460.403(9)(c)2. or 3.
 187 ~~s. 460.403(9)(c)2.~~, performing any surgery, or practicing
 188 obstetrics.

189 **Section 4. Paragraph (b) of subsection (13) of section**
 190 **460.4165, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

191 460.4165 Certified chiropractic physician's assistants.—

192 (13) CERTIFIED CHIROPRACTIC ASSISTANT CERTIFICATION
 193 RENEWAL.—The certification must be renewed biennially.

194 (b) Each certified chiropractic physician's assistant
 195 shall biennially complete 24 hours of continuing education
 196 courses ~~sponsored by chiropractic colleges accredited by the~~
 197 ~~Council on Chiropractic Education and~~ approved by the board. The
 198 board shall approve those courses that build upon the basic
 199 courses required for the practice of chiropractic medicine, and
 200 the board may also approve courses in adjunctive modalities. The

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201 board may make exception from the requirements of this section
202 in emergency or hardship cases. The board may adopt rules
203 necessary to implement ~~within the requirements of~~ this section
204 ~~which are necessary for its implementation.~~

205 **Section 5.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.