

HCS HB 1246 -- CHIROPRACTORS

This bill changes the laws regarding the practice of chiropractic. The bill:

- (1) Removes the equivalent reciprocal licensing requirements which allow licensees from other states to be eligible for licensure in Missouri without examination;
- (2) Allows licensed chiropractors to make application with the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners for certification in meridian therapy/acupressure/acupuncture. The board is authorized to establish minimum requirements for the specialty certification;
- (3) Increases from three to five years the time licensees may let their license lapse before being required to attend an accredited chiropractic college to have their license reinstated;
- (4) Authorizes the board to create the requirements necessary to gain inactive status and for inactive licenses. Persons having discontinued their licenses because of retirement will be allowed to practice on themselves and their immediate family. Persons holding inactive licenses are not required to comply with continuing education requirements;
- (5) Creates record-keeping requirements. Licensees are required to maintain patient records for a minimum of seven years. All additions, corrections, and changes to any records must be made within 48 hours after the final entry made into the record and signed by the chiropractor. The board cannot initiate disciplinary action against a licensee solely on the basis of inadequate record keeping; and
- (6) Allows for the practice of chiropractic across state lines. Chiropractors licensed in other states are not required to obtain a Missouri license to practice chiropractic while in consultation with a chiropractor licensed to practice in this state as a result of the transmission of patient data through electronic or other means. The chiropractor licensed in this state retains ultimate authority and responsibility for the diagnosis and treatment of the patient.