



*Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Robert R. Neall, Secretary*

**Maryland State Board of Chiropractic Examiners**  
4201 Patterson Avenue  
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February 18, 2020

The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair and Committee Members  
Health and Government Affairs Committee  
House Office Building, Room 241  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: Bill Number – HB 448 - Health Care Practitioners – Telehealth – Letter of Support**

Dear Chair Pendergrass:

The Maryland State Board of Chiropractic Examiners is submitting this letter of support for HB 448 - Health Care Practitioners – Telehealth.

The bill allows for all health care practitioners including chiropractors, to treat patients through telehealth by either synchronous or asynchronous means. The chiropractor must first verify the identity of the patient, disclose to the patient the chiropractor's name, contact information, and the type of health occupation license held by the chiropractor. The chiropractor must obtain oral or written consent from the patient or from the patient's parent or legal guardian, and then perform a clinical evaluation that is appropriate for the patient and the condition with which the patient presents before providing treatment. The chiropractor may use a synchronous or asynchronous interaction to perform the required clinical evaluation. Treatment records must be maintained as well as all laws regarding confidentiality. The appropriate standard of care is the same as those applicable to in-person office settings.

When appropriate, the bill will allow chiropractors to provide assessment and treatment planning to patients without the patient being required to appear in the chiropractor's office. The majority of interaction will occur through computer or telephone. This mode of treatment is especially helpful for those patients with mobility issues including the elderly. For example, it will allow a chiropractor to better evaluate the appropriate treatment for a nursing home resident who is being evaluated in-person by a chiropractic assistant who utilizes an intraoral video camera, and a digital camera for the capture of pictures, which are then transmitted to a chiropractor. The chiropractor can then determine if further treatment is necessary or beneficial.

The Board hopes that this information is useful. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact me at Dr. Gregory Lewis, 443-250-7664, [glewisdc@gmail.com](mailto:glewisdc@gmail.com). In addition, the Board's Executive Director, Sharon Oliver, may be reached at 410-764-5985, [sharon.oliver@maryland.gov](mailto:sharon.oliver@maryland.gov).

Sincerely,

Gregory Lewis, D.C.  
President

*The opinion of the Maryland State Board of Chiropractic Examiners expressed in this letter of support does not necessarily reflect that of the Department of Health or the Administration.*