



**MARYLAND
CHIROPRACTIC
ASSOCIATION**

Testimony on behalf of the Maryland Chiropractic Association
Senate Bill 52—Health Occupations—State Board of Chiropractic
Examiners--Revisions
Support with Amendments
January 28, 2025
Senate Finance Committee

The Maryland Chiropractic Association (MCA) is a professional organization founded in 1928 and is the leading voice for chiropractors in Maryland. Comprised of individual members, our mission is to elevate the chiropractic profession by educating the public and advancing chiropractic care for the citizens of Maryland. We have weighed in on many issues concerning patient care, insurance and other issues of importance to our members as well as our patients and the general public.

The Maryland Chiropractic Association supports Senate Bill 52 with amendments. We appreciate working with the Board of Chiropractic Examiners on these amendments. They include:

Amendment 1:

Page 3, line 17: **NOMINATION SIGNED BY AT LEAST [15] 20 CHIROPRACTORS LICENSED IN THE STATE.**

Twenty signatures represent two percent of the chiropractic community. We believe this is a reasonable threshold demonstrating confidence in the ability to serve the profession by one's peers.

Amendment 2:

Page 5, line 3: **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OR ITS SUCCESSOR THAT ACCREDITS PROGRAMS OFFERING**

We believe this language makes sense given current discussions at the Federal level about eliminating this Department.

Amendment 3:

Page 9, line 7-8: **(1) THE NATIONAL BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS OR ITS SUCCESSOR ENTITY ; OR**

(2) AN EQUIVALENT DOMESTIC CHIROPRACTIC TESTING ENTITY APPROVED BY THE BOARD; OR

(2)-(3) AN EQUIVALENT FOREIGN CHIROPRACTIC TESTING ENTITY APPROVED BY THE BOARD.

The National Board of Chiropractic Examiners is a private, for-profit company. While they are currently the only company offering board examinations in Chiropractic, there could easily be a competitor in the future. This amendment allows for that possibility.

In addition, the Maryland Chiropractic Association would respectfully request inclusion of the following amendment:

Amendment 4:

Page 4, line 16: **COMPLIANCE WITH THE SPECIFIC GUIDELINES AT THAT OFFICE AS STATED IN THE REGULATIONS OF THE BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS.**

The basic guidelines are broad and not specific for a profession like chiropractic. Regulations that stipulate the specific requirements to be followed would provide better clarity for the profession while, at the same time, protect the public.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide written comments on this bill and appreciate consideration of the MCA-requested amendment as well as the amendments we worked on with the Board. Thank you to Senator Augustine for his leadership on this bill.