

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2017

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SENATE BILL 428

Short Title: Chiropractor Parity & Preceptorships. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Hise (Primary Sponsor).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

March 29, 2017

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT REENACTING A LAW CONCERNING HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN
3 CO-PAYMENTS FOR CHIROPRACTIC SERVICES, ALLOWING CHIROPRACTIC
4 STUDENTS AT ACCREDITED CHIROPRACTIC COLLEGES TO PARTICIPATE IN
5 PRECEPTORSHIP PROGRAMS, AND ALLOWING CHIROPRACTORS TO
6 PERFORM MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS
7 PARTICIPATING IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC COMPETITIONS.

8 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

9 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 58-50-30(a3) reads as rewritten:

10 "(a3) Whenever any health benefit plan, subscriber contract, or policy of insurance issued
11 by a health maintenance organization, hospital or medical service corporation, or insurer
12 governed by Articles 1 through 67 of this Chapter provides coverage for medically necessary
13 treatment, the insurer shall not impose any limitation on treatment or levels of coverage if
14 performed by a duly licensed chiropractor acting within the scope of the chiropractor's practice
15 as defined in G.S. 90-151 unless a comparable limitation is imposed on the medically necessary
16 treatment if performed or authorized by any other duly licensed physician. An insurer shall not
17 impose as a limitation on treatment or level of coverage a co-payment amount charged to the
18 insured for chiropractic services that is higher than the co-payment amount charged to the
19 insured for the services of a duly licensed primary care physician for a comparable medically
20 necessary treatment or condition."

21 **SECTION 2.** Article 8 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes is amended by adding
22 a new section to read:

23 **§ 90-142.1. Supervised training programs authorized.**

24 (a) As used in this section, "preceptorship program" means a clinical program of an
25 approved chiropractic college in which a student of chiropractic, under the supervision of a
26 licensed chiropractor, observes the licensed chiropractor and may perform the duties of a
27 certified chiropractic clinical assistant as specified in G.S. 90-143.4.

28 (b) Each student enrolled in a chiropractic college that meets the accreditation
29 requirements of G.S. 90-143 may participate in a preceptorship program."

30 **SECTION 3.** G.S. 90-143.4(b) reads as rewritten:

31 (b) Any person employed as a chiropractic clinical assistant shall obtain a certificate of
32 competency from the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners (Board) within 180 days after the
33 person begins employment. Certification shall not be required for employees whose duties are
34 limited to administrative activities of a nonclinical nature. Except as otherwise provided in
35 G.S. 90-142.1 and this section, it shall be unlawful for any person to practice as a chiropractic
36 clinical assistant unless duly certified by the Board."



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1 **SECTION 4.** G.S. 115C-47(4) reads as rewritten:

2 "(4) To Regulate Extracurricular Activities. – Local boards of education shall
3 make all rules and regulations necessary for the conducting of
4 extracurricular activities in the schools under their supervision, including a
5 program of athletics, where desired, without assuming liability therefor;
6 provided, that all interscholastic athletic activities shall be conducted in
7 accordance with rules and regulations prescribed by the State Board of
8 Education. The rules shall require each student who participates in
9 interscholastic athletic competitions to receive a medical examination at
10 least once each calendar year. The required examination may be conducted
11 by a physician, chiropractor, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant
12 licensed to practice in this State."

13 **SECTION 5.** Section 1 of this act becomes effective January 1, 2018, and applies
14 to health benefit contracts issued, renewed, or amended on or after that date. The remainder of
15 this act is effective when it becomes law.