

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013

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HOUSE BILL 371

Short Title: Chiropractic Assistant Certification/Fee.-AB (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Bryan and Conrad (Primary Sponsors).

For a complete list of Sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly Web Site.

Referred to: Regulatory Reform, if favorable, Finance, if favorable, Appropriations.

March 21, 2013

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE STATE BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS TO
3 ESTABLISH AND ENFORCE EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS FOR CHIROPRACTIC
4 CLINICAL ASSISTANTS.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** Article 8 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes is amended by adding
7 the following new section to read:

8 **"§ 90-143.4. Chiropractic clinical assistants; certification of competency.**

9 (a) "Chiropractic clinical assistant" means a nonlicensed employee of a chiropractic
10 physician whose duties include (i) collecting general health data, such as the taking of an oral
11 history or vital sign measurements, (ii) applying therapeutic procedures, such as thermal,
12 sound, light and electrical modalities, and hydrotherapy, and (iii) monitoring prescribed
13 rehabilitative activities. Nothing in this section shall be construed to allow a chiropractic
14 clinical assistant to provide a chiropractic adjustment, manual therapy, nutritional instruction,
15 counseling, or any other therapeutic service that requires individual licensure.

16 (b) Any person employed as a chiropractic clinical assistant shall obtain a certificate of
17 competency from the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners (Board) within 120 days after the
18 person begins employment. Certification shall not be required for employees whose duties are
19 limited to administrative activities of a nonclinical nature. Except as otherwise provided in this
20 section, it shall be unlawful for any person to practice as a chiropractic clinical assistant unless
21 duly certified by the Board.

22 (c) An applicant for certification under this section shall be (i) at least 18 years of age,
23 (ii) a high school graduate or the equivalent, (iii) of good moral character, and (iv) able to
24 demonstrate proficiency in the following subjects:

- 25 (1) Basic anatomy.
26 (2) Chiropractic philosophy and terminology.
27 (3) Utilization of standard therapeutic modalities.
28 (4) Contraindications and response to emergencies.
29 (5) Jurisprudence and patient privacy protection.

30 (d) If an applicant for certification is already certified or registered as a chiropractic
31 clinical assistant in another state, the Board shall issue a certificate of competency upon
32 evidence that the applicant is in good standing in the other state, provided the requirements for
33 certification or registration in the other state are substantially similar to or more stringent than
34 the requirements for certification in this State.



1 (e) Any certificate issued under this section shall expire at the end of the calendar year
2 unless renewed in a time and manner established by the Board. Applicants for initial
3 certification or renewal of certification shall pay to the secretary of the Board a fee as
4 prescribed and set by the Board, which fee shall not exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00).

5 (f) The Board may adopt rules pertaining to initial educational requirements, course
6 approval, instructor credentials, examination of applicants, grandfathering, reciprocity,
7 continuing education requirements, and the submission and processing of applications as are
8 reasonably necessary to enforce this section."

9 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2014.