

By: Smith of Harris

H.B. No. 1712

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to certain educational requirements applicable to the
3 regulation of the practice of chiropractic.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 201.052(a), Occupations Code, is amended
6 to read as follows:

7 (a) A person is not eligible to serve as a member of the
8 board if the person:

9 (1) is a member of the faculty or board of trustees of
10 a chiropractic school or a doctoral chiropractic degree program;

11 (2) is a stockholder in a chiropractic school or
12 college; or

13 (3) has a financial interest in a chiropractic school
14 or college.

15 SECTION 2. Section 201.159(a), Occupations Code, is amended
16 to read as follows:

17 (a) The board shall preserve a record of its proceedings in
18 a register that contains:

19 (1) the name, age, place, and duration of residence of
20 each applicant for a license;

21 (2) the amount of time spent by the applicant in the
22 study of chiropractic in respective doctoral chiropractic degree
23 programs [~~schools~~]; and

24 (3) other information the board desires to record.

1 SECTION 3. Sections 201.302(a) and (d), Occupations Code,
2 are amended to read as follows:

3 (a) An applicant for a license by examination must present
4 satisfactory evidence to the board that the applicant:

5 (1) is at least 18 years of age;

6 (2) is of good moral character;

7 (3) has completed 90 semester hours of college courses
8 ~~[at a school]~~ other than courses included in a doctoral
9 chiropractic degree program ~~[school]~~; and

10 (4) is either a graduate or a final semester student of
11 a bona fide reputable doctoral chiropractic degree program
12 ~~[school]~~.

13 (d) Notwithstanding Subsection (a)(3), if the Council on
14 Chiropractic Education or another national chiropractic education
15 accreditation organization recognized by the board requires a
16 number of semester hours of college courses ~~[at a school]~~ other than
17 courses included in a doctoral chiropractic degree program ~~[school]~~
18 that is greater or less than the number of hours specified by that
19 subsection to qualify for admission to a doctoral chiropractic
20 degree program ~~[school]~~, the board may adopt the requirement of
21 that organization if the board determines that requirement to be
22 appropriate.

23 SECTION 4. Section 201.303(d), Occupations Code, is amended
24 to read as follows:

25 (d) A bona fide reputable doctoral chiropractic degree
26 program ~~[school]~~ that satisfies Section 201.302(a)(4) is one that:

27 (1) has entrance requirements and a course of

1 instruction as high as those of a better class of doctoral
2 chiropractic degree programs [~~schools~~] in the United States;

3 (2) maintains a resident course of instruction
4 equivalent to:

5 (A) not less than four terms of eight months
6 each; or

7 (B) not less than the number of semester hours
8 required by The University of Texas for a bachelor of arts or
9 bachelor of science degree;

10 (3) provides a course of instruction in the
11 fundamental subjects listed in Section 201.305(b); and

12 (4) has the necessary teaching staff and facilities
13 for proper instruction in all of the fundamental subjects listed in
14 Section 201.305(b).

15 SECTION 5. Section 201.309, Occupations Code, is amended to
16 read as follows:

17 Sec. 201.309. LICENSE ISSUANCE TO CERTAIN OUT-OF-STATE
18 APPLICANTS. The board shall issue a license to practice
19 chiropractic to an out-of-state applicant who:

20 (1) submits a written application to the board on a
21 form prescribed by the board, accompanied by the application fee
22 set by the board and any other information requested by the board;

23 (2) is licensed in good standing to practice
24 chiropractic in another state or foreign country that has licensing
25 requirements substantially equivalent to the requirements of this
26 chapter;

27 (3) has not been the subject of a disciplinary action

1 and is not the subject of a pending investigation in any
2 jurisdiction in which the applicant is or has been licensed;

3 (4) has graduated from a doctoral chiropractic degree
4 program [~~school~~] accredited by the Council on Chiropractic
5 Education and approved by rule by the board;

6 (5) has passed a national or other examination
7 recognized by the board relating to the practice of chiropractic;

8 (6) has passed the board's jurisprudence examination;

9 (7) has practiced chiropractic:

10 (A) for at least the three years immediately
11 preceding the date of the application under this section; or

12 (B) as a chiropractic educator in [~~at~~] a doctoral
13 chiropractic degree program [~~school~~] accredited by the Council on
14 Chiropractic Education for at least the three years immediately
15 preceding the date of the application under this section; and

16 (8) meets any other requirements adopted by rule by
17 the board under this chapter.

18 SECTION 6. The change in law made by this Act applies to an
19 applicant who files an application for a license under Chapter 201,
20 Occupations Code, on or after the effective date of this Act. An
21 applicant who files an application before that date is governed by
22 the law in effect on the date the application was filed, and the
23 former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

24 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
25 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
26 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
27 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

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1 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.