

SENATE BILL NO. 297

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Introduced: 3/27/00

Referred: Labor and Commerce

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to the licensing of chiropractors."

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 * **Section 1.** AS 08.20 is amended by adding new sections to read:

4 **Sec. 08.20.163. Temporary permit for locum tenens practice.** (a) The
5 board may grant a temporary permit to a chiropractor for the purpose of the
6 chiropractor's substituting for another chiropractor licensed in this state. The permit
7 is valid for 60 consecutive days. If circumstances warrant, an extension of the permit
8 may be granted by the board.

9 (b) A chiropractor applying under (a) of this section shall pay the required fee
10 and shall meet the

11 (1) requirements of AS 08.20.120; or

12 (2) following requirements:

13 (A) submit evidence of a current license in good standing,
14 including

15 (i) no action reported in the national licensee database

1 of the Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards;

2 (ii) not having been, within the five years preceding the
 3 date of application, the subject of an unresolved review or an adverse
 4 decision based upon a complaint, investigation, review procedure, or
 5 disciplinary proceeding undertaken by a state, territorial, local, or
 6 federal chiropractic licensing jurisdiction, chiropractic society, or law
 7 enforcement agency that relates to criminal or fraudulent activity,
 8 chiropractic malpractice, or negligent chiropractic care and that
 9 adversely reflects on the applicant's ability or competence to engage in
 10 the practice of chiropractic or on the safety or well-being of patients;
 11 and

12 (iii) no conviction for a felony within the five years
 13 preceding the date of application;

14 (B) submit evidence of five years of active licensed clinical
 15 practice;

16 (C) be a graduate of a school or college of chiropractic that is
 17 accredited by or a candidate for accreditation by the Council on Chiropractic
 18 Education or a successor accrediting agency recognized by the board;

19 (D) have completed 120 hours of formal training in
 20 physiological therapeutics or have passed, to the satisfaction of the board, the
 21 Physiotherapy Examination of the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners;

22 (E) have passed, to the satisfaction of the board, Parts I and II
 23 of the examination of the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners; and

24 (F) pass an examination given by the board.

25 (c) Permits and extensions of permits issued under this section to an individual
 26 are not valid for more than 240 days during any consecutive 24 months.

27 **Sec. 08.20.165. Inactive license status.** (a) A licensee who does not practice
 28 in the state may hold an inactive license. A person who practices in the state, however
 29 infrequently, shall hold an active license.

30 (b) A person who has an inactive license certificate under (a) of this section
 31 may reactivate the license by applying for an active license and paying the required

1 fees. A person is eligible for change from an inactive to an active status under this
 2 subsection only if the person has been in inactive status for less than 24 months. If
 3 the person has been in inactive status for 24 months or for more than 24 months, the
 4 person is required to meet the requirements for initial licensure in order to be licensed
 5 under this chapter again.

6 **Sec. 08.20.167. Retired license status.** (a) Upon retiring from practice and
 7 upon payment of an appropriate one-time fee, a licensee in good standing with the
 8 board may apply for the conversion of an active or inactive license to a retired status
 9 license. A person holding a retired status license may not practice chiropractic in the
 10 state. A retired status license is valid for the life of the license holder and does not
 11 require renewal. A person holding a retired status license is exempt from continuing
 12 education requirements adopted by the board under AS 08.20.170(d).

13 (b) A person with a retired status license may apply for active licensure.
 14 Before issuing an active license under this subsection, the board may require the
 15 applicant to meet reasonable criteria, as determined under regulations of the board, that
 16 may include submission of continuing education credits, reexamination requirements,
 17 physical and psychiatric examination requirements, an interview with the board, and
 18 a review of information in the national licensee database of the Federation of
 19 Chiropractic Licensing Boards.

20 * **Sec. 2.** AS 08.20.170(a) is amended to read:

21 (a) The board may, after a hearing, impose a disciplinary sanction on a person
 22 licensed under this chapter **or refuse to issue a license under this chapter** when the
 23 board finds that the **person** [LICENSEE]

24 (1) secured **or attempted to secure** a license through deceit, fraud, or
 25 intentional misrepresentation;

26 (2) engaged in deceit, fraud, or intentional misrepresentation in the
 27 course of providing professional services or engaging in professional activities;

28 (3) advertised professional services in a false or misleading manner;

29 (4) has been convicted, **including a conviction based on a guilty plea**
 30 **or plea of nolo contendere,** of

31 **(A)** a felony or other crime **that** [WHICH] affects the **person's**

1 [LICENSEE'S] ability to [CONTINUE TO] practice competently and safely;
 2 or

3 **(B) a crime involving the unlawful procurement, sale,**
 4 **prescription, or dispensing of drugs;**

5 (5) intentionally or negligently engaged in or permitted the performance
 6 of patient care by persons under the licensee's supervision **that** [WHICH] does not
 7 conform to minimum professional standards established by regulation regardless of
 8 whether actual injury to the patient occurred;

9 (6) failed to comply with this chapter, with a regulation adopted under
 10 this chapter, or with an order of the board;

11 (7) continued **or attempted** to practice after becoming unfit due to

12 (A) professional incompetence;

13 (B) addiction or severe dependency on alcohol or a drug **that**
 14 [WHICH] impairs the **person's** [LICENSEE'S] ability to practice safely;

15 (C) physical or mental disability **or an infectious or**
 16 **contagious disease;**

17 (8) engaged in lewd or immoral conduct in connection with the delivery
 18 of professional service to patients; or

19 (9) failed to satisfy continuing education requirements adopted by the
 20 board.

21 * **Sec. 3.** AS 08.20.180(a) is amended to read:

22 (a) An applicant for an examination, reexamination, issuance of a temporary
 23 permit **under AS 08.20.160, issuance of a locum tenens permit under AS 08.20.163,**
 24 **one-time issuance of a retired status license,** or initial issuance or renewal of **an**
 25 **active or inactive** [A] license shall pay a fee established under AS 08.01.065.