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439

Board of Chiropractic Examiners

Current Number of Licensees - 95

FY '83 - Allocated 10.5 (Board Travel and Per Diem)

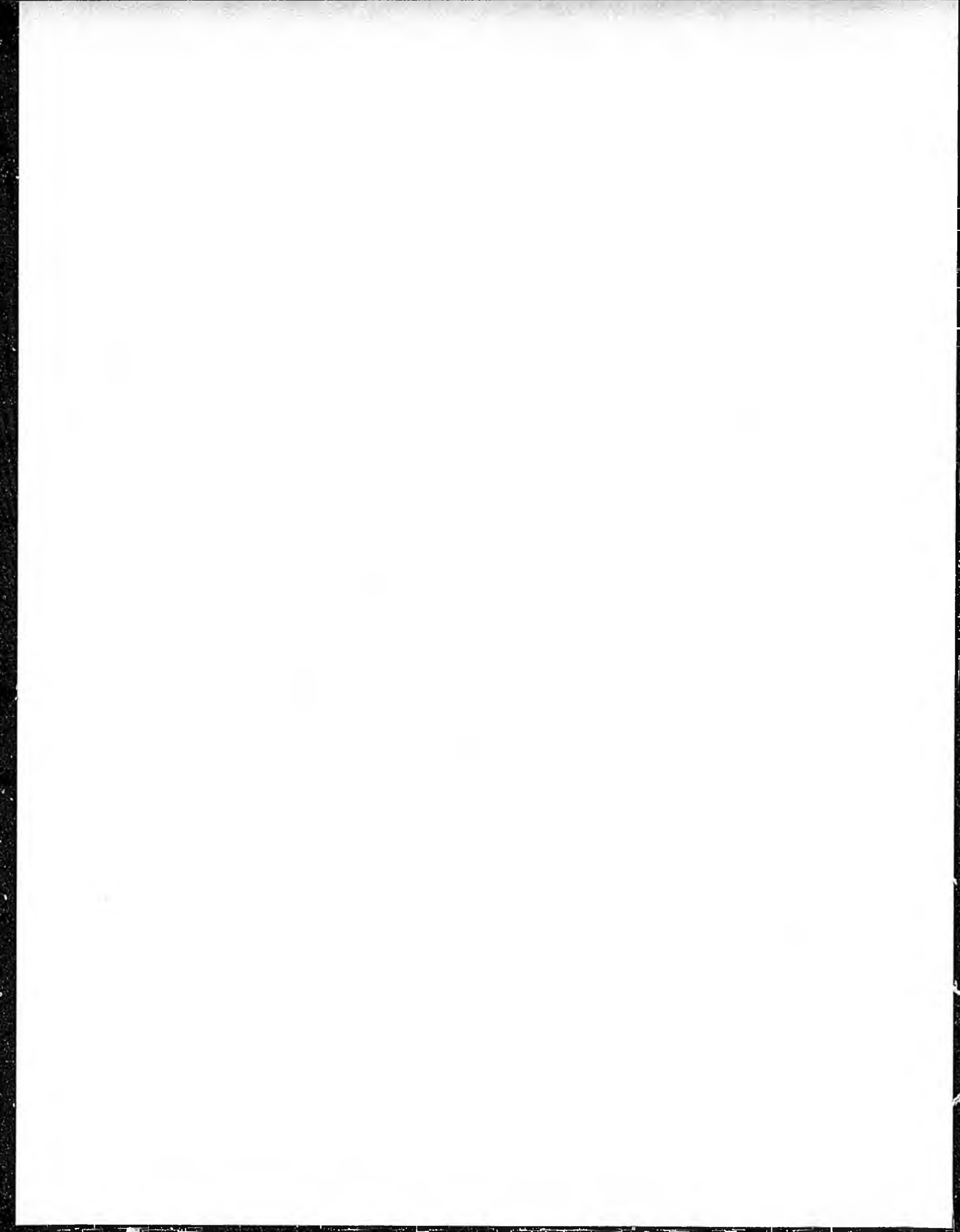
Revenues (7/1/82 - 7/1/83)	5.5	
Contractual	23.0	
Board Travel and Per Diem		12.9
**Personal Services		8.6
*Contractual		<u>1.5</u>
	Total	23.0

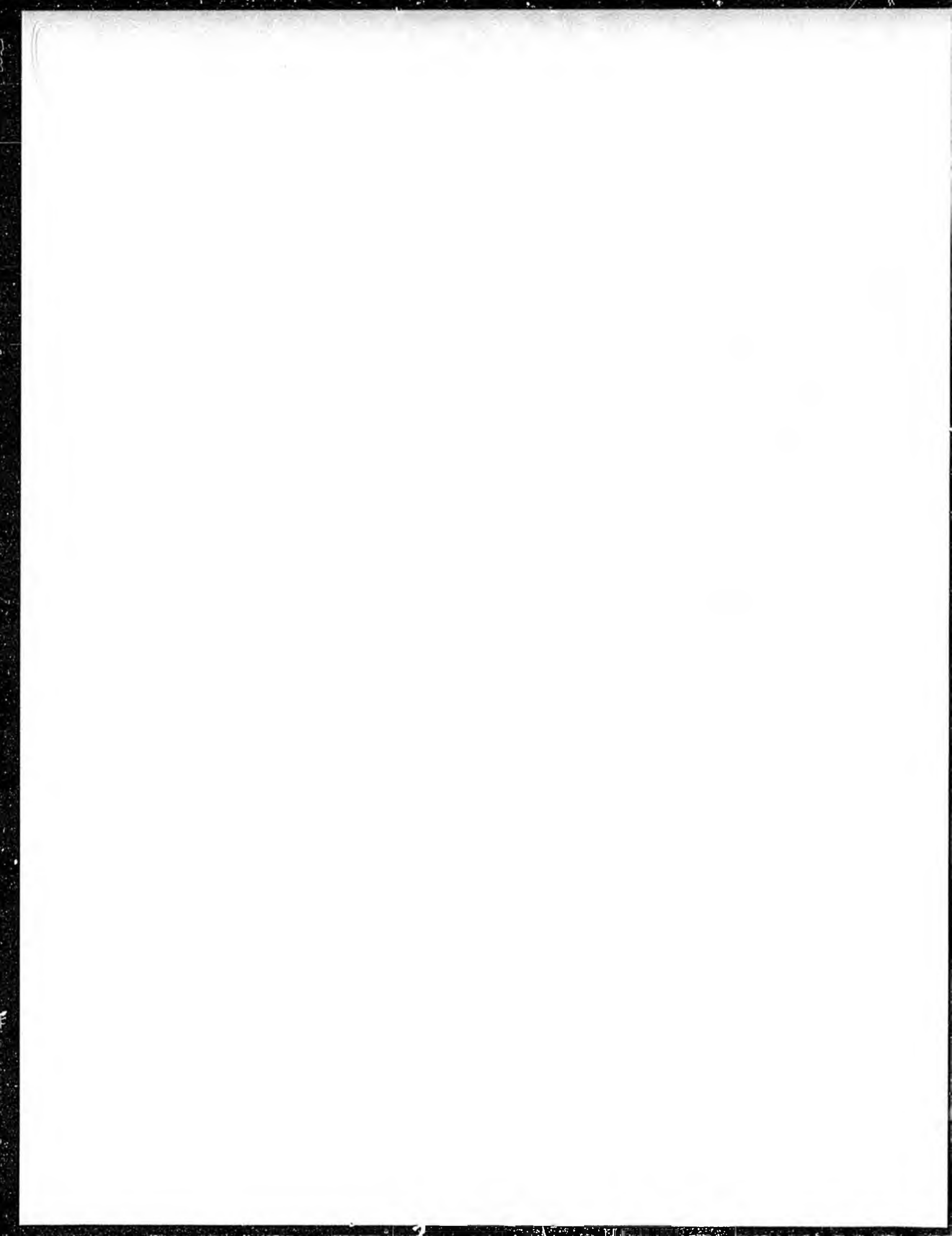
FY '84 - Allocated 5.5 (Board Travel and Per Diem)

Revenues (7/1/83 - 2/1/84)	1.4	
Contractual	9.5	
Board Travel and Per Diem		5.0
**Personal Services		4.1
*Contractual		<u>.4</u>
	Total	9.5

FY '85 Board Component - Division Budget Total - 95.0  
Board of Chiropractic Examiners Allocation - 2.3

- \* The above items are funded in the division's budget under the Administration component.
- \*\* Personal services or 1/3 of one licensing examiner's position.





**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
**SENATE**

FURTHER:

2/19/88

Date 3/11/88

Mr. President

The Committee on LABOR & OCCUPATION considered SB 439

extending the termination date of the Board of Chiropractic Examiners, et al.

and (a majority of the committee) (the committee) reports it back with the following recommendations:

- do pass
- do pass with attached amendment(s)
- replace with/or adopt CS for \_\_\_\_\_
- new title \_\_\_\_\_
- same title and recommends \_\_\_\_\_
- and attached a "LETTER OF INTENT"  NEW FISCAL NOTE
- reports it back without recommendation
- recommends referral to \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

MEMBERS SIGNING  
DO PASS

MEMBERS HAVING  
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

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[Signature]  
Chairman

[Signature]  
Chairman recommendation



CREATED IN 1939, THE ALASKA BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS IS A REGULATORY BOARD COMPRISED OF FIVE MEMBERS --- FOUR ARE LICENSED CHIROPRACTORS AND ONE IS A PUBLIC INDIVIDUAL. THIS BOARD REVIEWS APPLICATIONS OF INDIVIDUALS DESIRING TO ENTER THE CHIROPRACTIC PROFESSION AS WILL AS ADOPTS REGULATIONS REGARDING THE STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE.

*THE LDC COMM. HAS HAD UNDER SUNSET REV. AND HAS FOUND THAT THIS BOARD*

THE BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS HAS FUNCTIONED IN THE PUBLIC'S BEST INTEREST AND SHOULD BE REESTABLISHED. SB 439 EXTENDS THE TERMINATION DATE OF THIS BOARD FOR 4 YEARS; UNTIL 1988.

THIS BOARD HAS BEEN VERY RESPONSIVE TO THE DIVISION OF LEGISLATIVE AUDIT FINDINGS OUTLINED IN THEIR PERFORMANCE REPORT. THE BOARD CONCURRED WITH THE AUDIT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND HAVE TAKEN STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE CHANGES.

THE BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS SHOULD BE REESTABLISHED FOR FOUR YEARS. THE REGULATION AND LICENSING OF QUALIFIED PROFESSIONALS IS NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE. I RECOMMEND PASSAGE OF SB 439.

FURTHER INFORMATION

THE BOARD DOES REQUIRE THAT A PHOTOGRAPH BE ATTACHED TO AN APPLICATION. HOWEVER, THE SENATE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE REQUESTED THE BOARD REVIEW THIS POLICY AND ELIMINATE THIS REQUIREMENT.

FIVE RECOMMENDATIONS PROPOSED BY LEGISLATIVE AUDIT:

1) ELIMINATE THE WRITTEN PART OF STATE EXAM.

THIS SECTION DUPLICATED THE NATIONAL EXAM. THE BOARD HAS CHANGED THIS REQUIREMENT.

2) ADOPT CONTINUING EDUCATION REGULATIONS.

THE BOARD HAS DRAFTED CONTINUING EDUCATION REGULATIONS AND WILL PUSH TO SEE THE REGULATIONS ADOPTED.

3) IMPROVE EXAM GUIDELINES.

THIS HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED.

4) REVISE REGULATIONS REGARDING ISSUANCE OF TEMPORARY PERMITS.

THE BOARD HAS BEEN DRAFTING THESE REGULATIONS.

5) MAINTAIN YEARLY REPORTS.

THE BOARD HAS ACCOMPLISHED THIS TASK.

THE BUDGET FOR THE BOARD IS ON PAGE 15.

AVERAGE REVENUE	\$8,680	(FROM LICENSE FEES)
* EXPENDITURES	<u>42,240</u>	
COST TO STATE	\$33,560	

\* EXPENDITURES INCLUDE BOARD MEMBER TRAVEL AND PER DIEM PLUS A % OF TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT OF THE DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING.



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE - SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND COMMERCE

SENATOR RICHARD I. ELIASON  
CHAIRMAN

POUCH V • JUNEAU, ALASKA 99611  
(907) 465-3844

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

March 8, 1984

The Honorable Jalmar Kerttula  
President of the Senate  
Alaska State Legislature  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Mr. President:

The Senate Labor and Commerce Committee has had under consideration for "Sunset Review" the Board of Chiropractic Examiners pursuant to your referral under AS 44.66.050 and AS 08.03.010.

In accordance with the statutory requirement, a public hearing was held on the review of this Board. The Committee considered the proposed budget of the Board and examined the performance audit of the activities of the Board prepared by the Legislative Audit Division.

Guided, in part, by the report prepared by the Legislative Audit Division, the Committee took into consideration the factors required to be considered under AS 44.66.050(c). The Board of Chiropractic Examiners has operated in the public interest by promulgating regulations which assure only qualified professionals practice chiropractics. The Board issues licenses to applicants that have met all licensing requirements and have taken and passed the State examination. To encourage upgrading of professional competency, the Board has drafted continuing education regulations and will be actively pursuing this area. The Board is reviewing their policies to assure that temporary permits are appropriately used.

The Senate Labor and Commerce Committee has introduced legislation that would extend the Board of Chiropractic Examiners another four years.

Sincerely,

Senator Dick Eliason, Chair  
Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

POUCH D  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811

Phone: 465-2534

March 7, 1984

Senator Richard Eliason  
Chairman. Labor and Commerce Committee

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Mr. Mercer of The Division of Occupational Licensing has requested that I respond to your Committee's question relating to the photos which we require be submitted with applications for Chiropractic examinations.

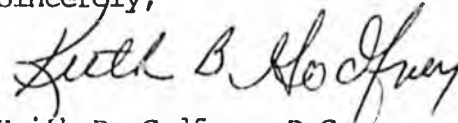
Simply put, the requirement assures the Board it is administering the examination to the right individual. Attempts are made by some applicants to have a substitute write the examination. This may occur infrequently but we feel the licensed Chiropractor could harm the public if the license is obtained in this manner. It could take a while before he is discovered.

The photographs of the applicants are not viewed by individual Board members. Applications with photos are handled only by the license examiner and/or the Board lay member.

Personally, I feel the Chiropractic Board would agree to an alternate, secure revision of the photo requirement if one could be developed.

Please contact me if further assistance is required. Thank you for your Committee's time.

Sincerely,



Keith B. Godfrey, D.C.  
President, Alaska State Board  
of Chiropractic Examiners

KBG/ps

# 3,000 doctors could be phony

Associated Press

Several states are checking physicians' qualifications and others are re-examining their medical licensing procedures following published reports that up to 3,000 doctors nationwide may be working under phony credentials.

"I think it's fair to say we'll approach this a little more cautiously in the future," Delaware Deputy Attorney General Edward Kafader, counsel to the Board of Medical Practice, said Tuesday.

The New York Times reported Sunday that federal and state officials have launched a nationwide investigation into reports that up to 3,000 people may be working as doctors or seeking medical certification with false credentials, many from Caribbean medical schools.

According to the report, the probe was sparked by the U.S. Postal Service's discovery last year of extensive trafficking in fraudulent credentials. Federal prosecutors recently disclosed that a Peruvian living in Alexandria, Va., had admitted taking some \$1.5 million from 165 people in order to obtain fake documents for them, mainly from a school in the Dominican Republic.

An informal survey by The Associated Press on Tuesday showed that at least nine states have responded by checking to see if the individuals listed by the U.S. Postal Service have been licensed, by further checking credentials of foreign school graduates or by re-examining the thoroughness of evaluation procedures. They are Washington, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, New York, Illinois, Delaware, Minnesota and Massachusetts.

The most extensive investigation is taking place in New York, where officials said at least three psychiatric residents have already been fired for

falsifying credentials.

In addition, the credentials of more than 1,000 licensed physicians and residents are being examined by the Office of Mental Health, which checks doctors applying to state psychiatric hospitals, and the Office of Professional Discipline, which handles all residents seeking licenses in New York, officials said.

A resident is a medical school graduate in training to get a medical license, usually in a specialty.

New York is also "developing new guidelines for our hospitals to check the credentials of residents and all doctors," said Robert Spoor, spokesman for the Office of Mental Health.

Maryland officials are setting up a 12-member task force to ensure that physicians who graduated from foreign medical schools are properly trained, said Dr. C. Earl Hill, president of the state Board of Medical Examiners.

The state already requires verification of education outside the United States, but the recent reports show the need for "tighter scrutiny," Hill said.

Pennsylvania's medical board is investigating allegations of phony credentials held by doctors in that state, including cases that arose from information supplied by the Postal Service, said board spokesman Stephen Gardner. He refused to elaborate.

Officials in Washington are checking credentials of five residents from medical schools in the Caribbean, demanding in-person interviews as well as new documents from the schools and hospitals where the five have previously worked, said Deanna Dicombe, executive secretary for the state medical disciplinary board.

## SUMMARY

### Performance Report - Board of Chiropractic Examiners

The Alaska Board of Chiropractic Examiners is a regulatory board comprised of five members; four are licensed chiropractors and one is a public individual. The underlying reasons for this Board are as follows:

- 1) Review applications of individuals desiring to enter the chiropractic profession in Alaska;
- 2) Administer an examination to test the applicant's ability;
- 3) Adopt regulations regarding the standards of professional practice;
- 4) Investigate and act upon complaints filed against members.

The Division of Legislative Audit proposed five recommendations which, if implemented, may improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Board.

1. The Board should eliminate Part I (written) of the State examination. Any person applying for a chiropractic license by examination is required to submit a Diplomate Certificate from the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners. This certificate indicates that the applicant has successfully passed a nationally recognized examination testing knowledge related to the field of chiropractics.

In addition to this requirement, the Board administers a State examination which basically consists of three parts. Part I tests the applicant on topics previously examined at the National Board level. In a 1971 opinion, the Attorney General stated that "the Board has the authority to require an applicant to demonstrate competence only in those subjects not covered by the National Board".

Therefore, considering the redundancy of the State written examination, the Division of Legislative Audit recommended the discontinuance of the State written examination.

2. The Board should adopt continuing education regulations for chiropractors as a provision for license renewal.

In October of 1981, the Board drafted continuing education regulations, but has not yet adopted them. The Alaska Chiropractic Society has unanimously endorsed the requirement of continuing education for license renewal as did 94% of respondents to a questionnaire. The support for this requirement seems to be enthusiastic, but still the Board has not promulgated the necessary regulations.

The Division of Legislative Audit recommends that the Board adopt continuing education regulations as soon as possible.

3. The Board should improve examination guidelines.

Examination guidelines should be established to prevent situations where a Board member/employer is administering and grading the State examination for an employee.

4. The Board should revise regulation 12 AAC 16.200 regarding the issuance of temporary permits.

Currently, regulations stipulate that a temporary permit holder must "practice in association with a licensed chiropractor in the State". The term "association with" does not limit the scope of services that can be performed nor requires direct or indirect supervision by the licensed chiropractor. Therefore, a temporary permit holder is allowed to practice unsupervised for up to 6 months prior to taking the State examination.

The Board should revise the regulations on the issuance of temporary permits to include either a supervisory requirement or a limitation on the services that can be performed.

5. The Board should issue, and the Division of Occupational Licensing should maintain the yearly reports as required by statute.

Without the report, neither the Legislature nor the Governor have an adequate basis for evaluating and analyzing the Board's performance.

It is the opinion of the Division of Legislative Audit that the Board of Chiropractic Examiners should be abolished. The regulation and licensing of qualified professional is necessary to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare.