

Sponsor Statement for SB 243

Chiropractors: Sunset/Licensing

An Act extending the termination date of the Board of Chiropractic Examiners; and relating to chiropractors.

Released: February 27, 2002
Contact: Senator Gene Therriault's office at (907) 465-6590

Under AS 08.20.010 the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners regulates qualified professionals by ensuring that the requirements laid out for licensure are met and adhered to. The Board was established in 1949 and currently regulates 204 chiropractors in the State of Alaska.

The Board consists of five members appointed by the governor. Four members shall be licensed chiropractic physicians who have practiced in Alaska for no less than two years. The fifth member shall be a person with no direct financial interest in the health care industry.

The regulation and licensing of qualified chiropractors continues to safeguard the public by promoting competence and integrity of those individuals who represent themselves as chiropractors to the public. The Board continues to do this by establishing standards for licensed professionals and monitoring the manner in which they practice.

The State Board of Chiropractic Examiners is set to expire June 30, 2002 under AS 08.03.010, Termination of State Boards and Commissions. If the Legislature does not act to extend the Board, it will have one year, until June 30, 2003, to administratively conclude its affairs. Senate Bill 243 will extend the Board for another four years and restore the Board's statutory authority to license by credentials.