

Chiropractic Fellowship of PA
Summary of Legislation
October 2017

**Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee Advances
Chiropractic Students Bill**

The **Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee** met on October 17 to consider [SB 892](#). The legislation, sponsored by **Sen. Guy Reschenthaler, (R-Allegheny)** amends the Chiropractic Practice Act, establishing that will clarify that chiropractic interns and students can receive clinical training and perform chiropractic activities under the supervision of a licensee, instructor or supervisor. Identical legislation has also been introduced as **House Bill 1737** by **Rep. Adam Ravenstahl**. The bill was unanimously reported from the committee, after it was amended by Chairman Tomlinson with a “technical amendment.” It was subsequently read two times on the Senate floor, and referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee. Final Senate passage is anticipated in the coming weeks.

EQB Publishes Radiological Health and Radon Certification Fees; Pennsylvania Radon Mitigation System Fee Regulations

The Environmental Quality Board amended Chapters 218 and 240 (relating to fees; and radon certification) to increase the annual fees for radioactive material licenses, with one exception; increase the hourly rate professional fee associated with certain full cost recovery licenses; increase the application fees for certification of radon services; and add a new requirement and fee for active mitigation systems installed or passive mitigation systems converted to active mitigation systems. Details are available in the Pennsylvania Bulletin. For further information, contact Joseph Melnic, Chief, Division of Radiation Control, P.O. Box 8469, Rachel Carson State Office Building, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8469, (717) 783-9730; or Keith Salador, Assistant Counsel, Bureau of Regulatory Counsel, P.O. Box 8464, Rachel Carson State Office Building, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8464, (717) 783-8075.
<https://www.pabulletin.com/secure/data/vol47/47-42/1729.html>

Legislative Activity

The following bills of interest to CFoP were acted on by the General Assembly this past month.

Scope of Practice/Licensure Bills

[HB 1836](#) RE: Physical Therapy Licensure Compact Act (by Rep. Stephen Barrar, et al)
Authorizes the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to join the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact; and providing for the form of the compact. The bill is to facilitate interstate practice of physical therapy with the goal of improving public access to physical therapy services.

Introduced and referred to House Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee, 10/10/2017
Reported as committed from House Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness committee read first time, and laid on the table, 10/17/2017
Removed from the table, 10/24/2017

[SB 892](#) RE: Chiropractic Students (by Sen. Guy Reschenthaler, et al)
Amends the Chiropractic Practice Act, in licensure and regulation, further providing for license required. The bill establishes that this section does not apply to a student enrolled in a chiropractic education program who is conducting chiropractic activities under the supervision of: instructors or supervisors who meet the licensing criteria of the Department of Education or the board; and enrolled in a program approved by the board at a regionally accredited college or university or Pennsylvania private licensed school or its equivalent as determined by the board.
Reported as amended from Senate Consumer Protection & Prof. Licensure Committee, and read first time, 10/17/2017
Read second time, and Rereferred to Senate Appropriations Committee, 10/23/2017

Budget-Related Bills

NONE

Child Abuse Reporting

NONE

Health Care Bills

[HB 1613](#) RE: HC4 Reinstatement (by Rep. Bryan Cutler, et al)

Amends Title 35 (Health and Safety) adding the Health Care Cost Containment Act; providing for the Health Care Cost Containment Council, for its powers and duties, for health care cost containment through the collection and dissemination of data, for public accountability of health care costs and for health care for the indigent. The Health Care Cost Containment Council is re-established as an independent council. Effective immediately.

**Amended on House floor, read second time, and Rereferred to House Appropriations Committee, 10/2/2017
Reported as committed from House Appropriations Committee, read third time, and passed House, 10/3/2017
(193-0)**

Received in the Senate and referred to Senate Health and Human Services Committee, 10/5/2017

[HB 1876](#) RE: Health Care Cost Transparency Act (by Rep. Greg Rothman, et al)

Requires a health care provider operating in the Commonwealth to publish the cost of health care procedures.

Introduced and referred to House Health Committee, 10/23/2017

[SR 212](#) RE: Chiropractic Conservative Care First Health Month (By Sen. David Argall, et al)

A Resolution recognizing the month of October 2017 as "Chiropractic Conservative Care First Health Month" in Pennsylvania.

Introduced and adopted, 10/3/2017

Health Care Work Force Bills

NONE

Health Insurance Bills

[HB 1388](#) RE: CHIP Reauthorization (by Rep. Rich Irvin, et al)

Amends the Insurance Company Law, in comprehensive health care for uninsured children, further providing for expiration by adding if federal law authorizes funding for the program for a period that extends beyond December 31, 2019, this article shall expire under subsection (a) (2) Further provides the benefit package for eligible children may not include sex reassignment surgery or sex transition services.

Reported as amended from Senate Banking and Insurance Committee, read first time, and rereferred to Senate Appropriations Committee, 10/18/2017

Reported as committed from Senate Appropriations Committee, 10/23/2017

Amended on Senate floor, and read second time, 10/24/2017

Read third time, and passed Senate, 10/25/2017 (37-13)

[HB 1688](#) RE: Pennsylvania Health Care Plan Act (by Rep. Pamela DeLissio, et al)

Establishes the Pennsylvania Health Care Plan and a board tasked with implementing statutory eligibility standards for health care benefits, annually adopting a health care benefits package for participants of the plan, acting directly or through one or more contractors as the single payer administrator for all claims for health care services provided under the plan, and other duties. Establishes panels pertaining to quality of care, and provides for their duties and responsibilities. Also establishes a **Pennsylvania Health Care Agency** to administer the plan, and an office of health care ombudsman. Provides eligibility, enrollment and reimbursement guidelines, and for waivers. Includes transitional support measures for commonwealth residents employed by a health care insurer or other health care-related business that loses employment within the first two years following implementation of the plan as a direct result of the implementation of the plan.

Introduced and referred to House Health Committee, 10/2/2017

[HB 1739](#) RE: Medical Service Agreement Act (by Rep. Matt Baker, et al)

Provides for direct primary care, medical service agreements and insurance, for medical service agreement requirements, for use of health savings accounts or flexible spending accounts and for use of other health care practitioners. The bill establishes that in order to be considered a medical service agreement under this act, the medical service agreement shall: be in writing; be signed by the patient or patient's legal representative or guardian; be signed by the physician; allow either party to terminate the medical service agreement upon written notice to the other party; describe the specific health care services that are included in the medical service agreement; specify the fee for the medical service agreement; specify the period of time under the medical service agreement; and include the following statement: This agreement does not provide comprehensive health insurance coverage. The agreement only provides for the health care services specifically described.

Received in the Senate and referred to Senate Banking and Insurance Committee, 10/3/2017

[HR 560](#) RE: CHIP Funding Reauthorization (by Rep. Mike Sturla, et al)

A Resolution urging the President of the United States and Congress to reauthorize funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program.

Introduced and referred to House Insurance Committee, 10/16/2017

[SB 926](#) RE: Medical Service Agreement Act (by Sen. Patrick Browne, et al)

Provides for direct primary care, medical service agreements and insurance. A physician providing direct primary care based on a medical service agreement shall not be considered an insurer or health maintenance organization under Commonwealth law and the physician shall be not subject to regulation by the Insurance Department for direct primary care. A **medical service agreement** shall not be considered health or accident insurance or coverage and shall not be subject to regulation by the department. A physician shall not be required to obtain a certificate of authority to market, sell or offer a medical service agreement or provide direct primary care. Also provides for medical service agreement requirements and use of other health care practitioners.

Introduced and referred to Senate Banking and Insurance Committee, 10/11/2017

Medical Assistance/DHS

NONE

Opioid Reduction

NONE

Partnerships/Liability

NONE

Sales Tax Expansion

NONE

Worker's Comp

[HB 1840](#) RE: Impairment Rating Evaluations (by Rep. Rob Kauffman, et al)

Amends the Workers' Compensation Act allowing employers to request an Impairment Rating Evaluation after an employee has received total disability compensation for a period of 104 weeks. Requires the employee to submit to a medical evaluation which shall be requested by the insurer within 60 days upon the expiration of the 104 weeks to determine the degree of impairment due to compensable injury. Further provides for physical examination or expert interview.

Introduced and referred to House Labor and Industry Committee. 10/2/2017

[SB 936](#) RE: Workers' Compensation Peer Review (by Sen. Don White, et al)

Amends the Workers' Compensation Act, in liability and compensation, further providing for prescription drugs and the treatment of work-related injuries; and, in procedure, further providing for peer review. The bill requires the department to select a nationally recognized, evidence-based prescription drug formulary appropriate for resolving

issues related to drugs prescribed for or related to the treatment of work-related injuries and establishes requirements related to the formulary for comment periods, selection factors, costs, annual review, online availability, savings calculations, and utilization review. The bill also places requirements on utilization review organizations and peer review organizations for certification.

Introduced and referred to Senate Labor and Industry Committee, 10/20/2017

Reported as committed from Senate Labor and Industry Committee, and read first time, 10/23/2017

Read second time, and rereferred to Senate Appropriations Committee, 10/24/2017

Reported as committed from Senate Appropriations Committee, read third time, and passed Senate, 10/25/2017 (34-16)

Upcoming meetings of Interest

Some House Committee meetings and session can be viewed online at: <http://www.pahousegop.com/>

Senate Committee meetings and session can be streamed at: <http://www.pasenategop.com/>

2017 Senate Fall Session Schedule

November 13, 14, 15

December 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20

2017 House Fall Session Schedule

November 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22

December 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20

State Board of Chiropractic Board Meeting Schedule

2017 Meeting Dates (Subject to Change)

November 9

All Board meetings are held at Penn Center, 2601 N. 3rd Street, Harrisburg, PA, at 9 AM

DHS Medical Assistance Advisory Committee (MAAC)

ALL MEETINGS ARE SCHEDULED FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 12 NOON

Lecture Hall 246/248

Temple University Harrisburg

234 Strawberry Square

Harrisburg, PA

Remaining 2017 Meeting Dates

October 26, December 14

Copies of bills described above can be obtained through the CFOP office, or on-line at:

<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/session.cfm>