



This Bill Analysis reflects the contents of the bill as it was presented in committee.

HOUSE BILL 729: Standards for Chiropractic Peer Review

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee:	House Health	Date:	April 27, 2015
Introduced by:	Reps. Conrad, Bryan, Setzer	Prepared by:	Amy Jo Johnson Committee Counsel
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition H729-CSTK-36		

SUMMARY: *The PCS to House Bill 729 requires chiropractic peer review to be performed by certain individuals licensed to practice chiropractic in North Carolina. The PCS specifies that the requirements apply only to motor vehicle liability claims for personal injury and to motor vehicle medical payments claims.*

BILL ANALYSIS:

The PCS to House Bill 729 would enact a new 90-153.1 that would require any individual, who is not a patient's treating chiropractor, who performs a retrospective review of the treatment records of a chiropractic patient for the purposes of advising third-party payer as to whether the services rendered were clinically necessary and supported by adequate documentation to meet specified qualifications. These new requirements apply only to motor vehicle liability claims for personal injury and to motor vehicle medical payments claims. The individual performing the review must meet the following criteria:

- Hold a current license to practice chiropractic in North Carolina.
- Has practiced chiropractic in North Carolina during the five-year period immediately preceding the review.
- Derive at least half of his or her professional income from providing care and treatment to chiropractic patients.
- Does not collect a fee based on the extent to which the third party payer reduces the treating chiropractor's bill.
- If reviewing the treatment records of a chiropractor who has been certified as a Diplomate in a specialty recognized by the State Board of Chiropractors, holds a diploma in the same specialty.

The PCS would also require that the chiropractor performing the review must disclose her or her identity and office address to the treating chiropractor whose bill or treatment is being reviewed. The reviewer must apply the standards of acceptable care in effect in North Carolina at the time the services were rendered when conducting the review.

Any licensed chiropractor who does not comply will be guilty of unethical conduct and subject to disciplinary action. Any individual who does not possess a North Carolina chiropractic license and who performs a review in violation of the requirements will be subject to prosecution and injunctive action as provided in G.S. 90-147. G.S. 90-147 states that practicing chiropractic without a license is a Class 1 misdemeanor.

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EFFECTIVE DATE: This act becomes effective October 1, 2015, and applies to reviews conducted on or after that date.