

No. 1993-63

AN ACT

HB 1416

Providing for the eligibility of certain persons for licensure to practice chiropractic and for colleges' notice as to accreditation; and making a repeal.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Eligibility for licensure.

(a) General rule.—If the chiropractic accrediting agency of a chiropractic college loses or has lost its recognition by the United States Department of Education, a student who had matriculated and begun his studies at the college prior to the effective date of the loss of recognition shall, upon completion of his degree program, be admitted to the chiropractic licensing examination and shall be eligible for licensure to practice chiropractic if he otherwise satisfies the requirements of the act of December 16, 1986 (P.L.1646, No.188), known as the Chiropractic Practice Act, provided that:

(1) the college continues to be accredited by the chiropractic accrediting agency;

(2) the college continues to have the authority, under the laws of the state in which it is located, to grant the doctor of chiropractic (D.C.) degree; and

(3) either the college is located in Pennsylvania or the student was a bona fide resident of Pennsylvania as of June 4, 1993.

(b) Applicability.—The provisions of this section shall apply only to students who graduate on or before December 31, 1996.

Section 2. Notice of accreditation status.

(a) Requirement.—A chiropractic college which is not accredited by a chiropractic accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or the Council on Post-Secondary Accreditation shall provide the following written disclosure to all applicants and to all students who began matriculating prior to June 4, 1993:

Section 501 of the Pennsylvania Chiropractic Practice Act requires applicants for licensure to have graduated from an approved college of chiropractic. Section 303 of this same act states that an approved college is a college accredited by a chiropractic accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or the Council on Post-Secondary Accreditation. This college is not currently an approved college. Efforts are being made to obtain approval.

Any applicant who was admitted to this college after June 4, 1993, will not qualify to be licensed to practice chiropractic in Pennsylvania if approval is not obtained by the time he applies for licensure. Any student matriculating

prior to June 4, 1993, will be eligible to be licensed in Pennsylvania if he otherwise satisfies the requirements of the act of December 16, 1986 (P.L.1646, No.188), known as the Chiropractic Practice Act, and:

(1) the college continues to be accredited by a chiropractic accrediting agency;

(2) the college continues to have the authority, under the laws of the state in which it is located, to grant the Doctor of Chiropractic (D.C.) degree; and

(3) the student graduates prior to December 31, 1996.

(b) Record.—The college shall do all of the following:

(1) Retain a copy of the disclosure under subsection (a) which is signed by the applicant or the matriculating student with the name and Social Security number of such individual typed or printed legibly beneath the signature.

(2) Forward the original to the State Board of Chiropractic.

(3) Forward a copy to the Commissioner of Professional and Occupational Affairs of the Commonwealth.

(c) Enforcement.—The Commissioner of Professional and Occupational Affairs or the State Board of Chiropractic shall enforce any failure to comply with the provisions of subsection (b) by an action in equity in a court of competent jurisdiction.

Section 3. Repeal.

Section 501(a)(5) of the act of December 16, 1986 (P.L.1646, No.188), known as the Chiropractic Practice Act, is repealed insofar as it is inconsistent with this act.

Section 4. Expiration.

The provisions of this act shall expire the earlier of the following:

(1) January 1, 1997; or

(2) as to any chiropractic college affected by this legislation, and as to its students, on the date that such college obtains accreditation from a chiropractic accrediting agency approved by the United States Department of Education or the Council on Post-Secondary Accreditation.

Section 5. Effective date.

This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 2nd day of July, A.D. 1993.

MARK S. SINGEL
ACTING GOVERNOR