### ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 73-ASSEMBLYMAN KIRNER

## PREFILED JANUARY 29, 2013

#### Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing the practice of chiropractic. (BDR 54-538)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No. Effect on the State: No.

EXPLANATION - Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets {omitted material} is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to chiropractic; revising certain provisions governing unprofessional conduct by a chiropractor or chiropractor's assistant; revising the information which must be submitted by an applicant for a license to practice chiropractic; revising provisions relating to the score which an applicant must obtain on an examination for a license to practice chiropractic; revising provisions governing temporary licenses to practice chiropractic; revising provisions governing the renewal of a license to practice chiropractic and a certificate as a chiropractor's assistant; revising provisions governing the reinstatement of a license to practice chiropractic; revising the circumstances under which a chiropractor may pierce or sever any body tissue; revising certain fees charged and collected by the Chiropractic Physicians' Board of Nevada; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

#### Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law provides that an applicant for a license to practice chiropractic in Nevada must submit an application to the Chiropractic Physicians' Board of Nevada and must obtain a passing score on an examination administered by the Board. (NRS 634.070, 634.080, 634.100) Section 3 of this bill revises the information an applicant for a license to practice chiropractic must submit to the Board to include a copy of the applicant's official transcript from the school or college of chiropractic. Section 4 of this bill revises provisions setting forth the passing score for the examination for a license to practice chiropractic.





Existing law provides that a chiropractor or chiropractor's assistant may be disciplined for unprofessional conduct. (NRS 634.018, 634.140) Section 2 of this bill provides that unprofessional conduct includes advertising, by any form of public communication, a chiropractic practice: (1) using grossly improbable statements; or (2) in any manner that will tend to deceive, defraud or mislead the public.

Existing law provides that a temporary license to practice chiropractic in this State is valid for the 10-day period designated on the license and is not renewable. (NRS 634.115) Section 5 of this bill revises provisions governing a temporary license to practice chiropractic in this State to provide that a temporary license is: (1) valid only for the period designated on the license, which must be not more than 10 days; (2) valid for the place of practice designated on the license; and (3) not renewable.

(1) valid only for the period designated on the license, which must be not more than
10 days; (2) valid for the place of practice designated on the license; and (3) not
renewable.
Existing law provides that the holder of a license to practice chiropractic or a
certificate as a chiropractor's assistant must complete a certain number of hours of
continuing education during the 24 months immediately preceding the renewal date
of the license or certificate. Existing law additionally requires a licensee or holder
of a certificate as a chiropractor's assistant to pay a fee upon the renewal of the
license or certificate. (NRS 634.130) Section 6 of this bill provides that the Board
may waive the continuing education requirements for a licensee or holder of a
certificate as a chiropractor's assistant if the licensee or holder of a certificate submits proof to the Board that the license or certificate from
completing the requirements for continuing education during the 24 months
immediately preceding the renewal date of the license or certificate. Section 6 also
authorizes the Board to waive the renewal fee for such a licensee or holder of a
certificate.
Section 8 of this bill increases from \$25 to \$50 the fee which the Board may

Section 8 of this bill increases from \$25 to \$50 the fee which the Board may
 charge and collect for review of a course offered by a chiropractic school or college
 or a course of continuing education in chiropractic.

40 Section 9 of this bill deletes a provision that authorizes a person whose license 41 to practice chiropractic has been revoked to apply to the Board for the restoration of 42 the license in certain circumstances.

Existing law prohibits a chiropractor from piercing or severing any body tissue, except to draw blood for diagnostic purposes. (NRS 634.225) **Section 10** of this bill revises that provision to authorize a chiropractor to pierce or sever any body tissue

46 for diagnostic purposes.

# THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. NRS 634.0173 is hereby amended to read as 2 follows:

3 634.0173 "Manipulation" means an application of a resistive 4 movement by applying a nonspecific force, *with or* without the use 5 of a thrust, which is directed into a region and not into a focal point 6 of the anatomy.

7 Sec. 2. NRS 634.018 is hereby amended to read as follows:

8 634.018 "Unprofessional conduct" means:

9 1. Obtaining a certificate upon fraudulent credentials or gross 10 misrepresentation.





Assuring that a manifestly incurable disease can be 3 3. 4 permanently cured. 5 Advertising, by any form of public communication, a 4. chiropractic [business in which] practice: 6 7 (a) Using grossly improbable statements fare made, advertising 8 in]; or 9 (b) In any manner that will tend to deceive, defraud or mislead 10 the public . for preparing, causing to be prepared, using or participating in the use of any form of public communication that 11 contains professionally self-laudatory statements calculated to 12 13 attract lay patients.] 14 As used in this subsection, "public communication" includes, but 15 is not limited to, communications by means of television, radio, 16 newspapers, books and periodicals, motion picture, handbills or 17 other printed matter. 18 5. Willful disobedience of the law, or of the regulations of the 19 State Board of Health or of the Chiropractic Physicians' Board of 20 Nevada. 21 6. Conviction of any offense involving moral turpitude, or the 22 conviction of a felony. The record of the conviction is conclusive 23 evidence of unprofessional conduct. 7. Administering, dispensing or prescribing any controlled 24 25 substance. 26 Conviction or violation of any federal or state law regulating 8. 27 the possession, distribution or use of any controlled substance. The 28 record of conviction is conclusive evidence of unprofessional 29 conduct. 30 9. Habitual intemperance or excessive use of alcohol or 31 alcoholic beverages or any controlled substance. 10. Conduct unbecoming a person licensed to practice 32 33 chiropractic or detrimental to the best interests of the public. Violating, or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or 34 11. 35 assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate, any provision of this chapter or the regulations adopted by the Board, or 36 37 any other statute or regulation pertaining to the practice of 38 chiropractic. 12. Employing, directly or indirectly, any suspended or 39 unlicensed practitioner in the practice of any system or mode of 40 treating the sick or afflicted, or the aiding or abetting of any 41 unlicensed person to practice chiropractic under this chapter. 42 43 Repeated malpractice, which may be evidenced by claims 13. 44 of malpractice settled against a practitioner. \* A B 7 3 \*

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2. Procuring, or aiding or abetting in procuring, criminal

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abortion.

1 14. Solicitation by the licensee or the licensee's designated 2 agent of any person who, at the time of the solicitation, is vulnerable 3 to undue influence, including, without limitation, any person known 4 by the licensee to have recently been involved in a motor vehicle 5 accident, involved in a work-related accident, or injured by, or as 6 the result of the actions of, another person. As used in this 7 subsection:

8 (a) "Designated agent" means a person who renders service to a 9 licensee on a contract basis and is not an employee of the licensee.

10 (b) "Solicitation" means the attempt to acquire a new patient 11 through information obtained from a law enforcement agency, 12 medical facility or the report of any other party, which information 13 indicates that the potential new patient may be vulnerable to undue 14 influence, as described in this subsection.

15 15. Employing, directly or indirectly, any person as a 16 chiropractor's assistant unless the person has been issued a 17 certificate by the Board pursuant to NRS 634.123, or has applied for 18 such a certificate and is awaiting the determination of the Board 19 concerning the application.

16. Aiding, abetting, commanding, counseling, encouraging, inducing or soliciting an insurer or other third-party payor to reduce or deny payment or reimbursement for the care or treatment of a patient, unless such action is supported by:

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(a) The medical records of the patient; or

(b) An examination of the patient by the chiropractic physiciantaking such action.

17. Violating a lawful order of the Board, a lawful agreement
with the Board, or any of the provisions of this chapter or any
regulation adopted pursuant thereto.

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**Sec. 3.** NRS 634.080 is hereby amended to read as follows:

31 634.080 1. An applicant for examination must file an 32 application not less than 60 days before the date of the examination.

33 2. An application must be filed with the Secretary of the Board34 on a form to be furnished by the Secretary.

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3. An application must be verified and must state:

(a) When and where the applicant was born, the various places
of the applicant's residence during the 5 years immediately
preceding the making of the application and the address to which he
or she wishes the Board to mail the license.

40 (b) The name, age and sex of the applicant.

41 (c) The names and post office addresses of all persons by whom
42 the applicant has been employed for a period of 5 years immediately
43 preceding the making of the application.



1 (d) Whether or not the applicant has ever applied for a license to 2 practice chiropractic in any other state and, if so, when and where and the results of the application. 3

(e) Whether the applicant is a citizen of the United States or 4 5 lawfully entitled to remain and work in the United States.

6 (f) Whether or not the applicant has ever been admitted to the 7 practice of chiropractic in any other state and, if so, whether any 8 discharge, dismissal, disciplinary or other similar proceedings have 9 ever been instituted against the applicant. Such an applicant must also attach a certificate **[of the Secretary of]** from the chiropractic 10 11 board of **[the]** each state in which the applicant was **[last]** licensed, certifying that the applicant is a member in good standing of the 12 13 chiropractic profession in that state, and that no proceedings 14 affecting the applicant's standing as a chiropractor are undisposed of 15 and pending.

16 (g) The applicant's general and chiropractic education, including 17 the schools attended and the time of attendance at each school, and 18 whether the applicant is a graduate of any school or schools.

19 (h) The names of:

20 (1) Two persons who have known the applicant for at least 3 21 years; and

22 (2) A person who is a chiropractor licensed pursuant to the 23 provisions of this chapter or a professor at a school of chiropractic. 24 (i) All other information required to complete the application.

25 4. An application must include a copy of the applicant's official transcript from the school or college of chiropractic from 26 which the applicant received his or her degree of doctor of 27 chiropractic, which must be transmitted by the school or college of 28 29 chiropractic directly to the Board.

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**Sec. 4.** NRS 634.100 is hereby amended to read as follows:

31 634.100 1. An applicant for a license to practice chiropractic 32 in this State must pay the required fee to the Secretary of the Board 33 not less than 60 days before the date of the examination. 34

2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 622.090 []:

35 (a) For a written, closed-book examination which is 36 administered in person by the Board, a score of 75 percent or 37 higher in all subjects taken on the examination is a passing score.

38 written, open-book examination **(b)** For a which is administered in person by the Board or an examination that is 39 taken online, a score of 90 percent or higher in all subjects taken 40 41 on the examination is a passing score.

3. If an applicant fails to pass the first examination, the 42 43 applicant may take a second examination within 1 year without 44 payment of any additional fees. Except as otherwise provided in





1 NRS 622.090, credit must be given on this examination for all 2 subjects previously passed. [with a score of 75 percent or higher.]

4. An applicant for a certificate as a chiropractor's assistant 3 4 must pay the required fee to the Secretary of the Board before the 5 application may be considered.

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**Sec. 5.** NRS 634.115 is hereby amended to read as follows:

7 634.115 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 4 and 8 5, upon application, payment of the required fee and the approval of 9 its Secretary and President, the Board may, without examination, 10 grant a temporary license to practice chiropractic in this State to a 11 person who holds a corresponding license or certificate in another 12 jurisdiction which is in good standing and who actively practices 13 chiropractic in that jurisdiction. A temporary license may be issued 14 for the limited purpose of authorizing the holder thereof to treat 15 patients in this State.

16 2. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, an applicant 17 for a temporary license must file an application with the Secretary of 18 the Board not less than 30 days before the applicant intends to 19 practice chiropractic in this State. Upon the request of an applicant, the President or Secretary may, for good cause, authorize the 20 applicant to file the application fewer than 30 days before he or she 21 22 intends to practice chiropractic in this State.

23 3. An application for a temporary license must be accompanied 24 by a fee of \$50 and include:

25 (a) The applicant's name, the address of his or her primary place 26 of practice and the applicant's telephone number;

27 (b) A current photograph of the applicant measuring 2 by 2 28 inches;

29 (c) The name of the chiropractic school or college from which 30 the applicant graduated and the date of graduation; and

31 (d) The number of the applicant's license to practice chiropractic 32 in another jurisdiction. 33

4. A temporary license **[is]**:

(a) Is valid for the [10-day] period designated on the license, 34 35 which must be not more than 10 days;

(b) Is valid for the place of practice designated on the license; 36 37 and fisl 38

(c) Is not renewable.

39 5. The Board may not grant more than two temporary licenses 40 to an applicant during any calendar year.

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Sec. 6. NRS 634.130 is hereby amended to read as follows:

42 634.130 1. Licenses and certificates must be renewed biennially. [Each] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 9, 43 44 each person who is licensed or holds a certificate as a 45 *chiropractor's assistant* pursuant to the provisions of this chapter





must, upon the payment of the required renewal fee and the 1 2 submission of all information required to complete the renewal, be 3 granted a renewal *license or* certificate which authorizes the person 4 to continue to practice for 2 years.

5 2. [The] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 9, the 6 renewal fee must be paid and all information required to complete 7 the renewal must be submitted to the Board on or before January 1 8 of. 9

(a) Each odd-numbered year for a licensee; and

10 (b) Each even-numbered year for a holder of a certificate as a 11 chiropractor's assistant.

12 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5 for 6.1, 6 or 7, 13 a licensee in active practice within this State must submit satisfactory proof to the Board that, during the 24 months 14 15 immediately preceding the renewal date of the license, the licensee 16 has attended at least 36 hours of continuing education which is 17 approved or endorsed by the Board.

18 4. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5 for 7.1, 6 or 8, a holder of a certificate as a chiropractor's assistant in active 19 practice within this State must submit satisfactory proof to the 20 Board that, during the 24 months immediately preceding the 21 22 renewal date of the certificate, the certificate holder has attended at least 12 hours of continuing education which is approved or 23 endorsed by the Board or the equivalent board of another state or 24 25 jurisdiction that regulates chiropractors' assistants. The continuing education required by this subsection may include education related 26 to lifesaving skills, including, without limitation, a course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation. The Board shall by regulation 27 28 29 determine how many of the required 12 hours of continuing 30 education must be course work related to such lifesaving skills. Any 31 course of continuing education approved or endorsed by the Board 32 or the equivalent board of another state or jurisdiction pursuant to 33 this subsection may be conducted via the Internet or in a live setting, including, without limitation, a conference, workshop or academic 34 35 course of instruction. The Board shall not approve or endorse a 36 course of continuing education which is self-directed or conducted 37 via home study.

38 The educational requirement of subsection 3 or 4 may be 5. 39 waived by the Board if the licensee or holder of a certificate as a chiropractor's assistant files with the Board a statement of a 40 41 chiropractic physician, osteopathic physician or doctor of medicine certifying that the licensee or holder of a certificate as a 42 chiropractor's assistant is suffering from a serious or disabling 43 44 illness or physical disability which prevented the licensee or holder 45 of a certificate as a chiropractor's assistant from completing the





1 requirements for continuing education during the 24 months 2 immediately preceding the renewal date of the license H or 3 certificate.

4 The Board may waive the educational requirement of 6. 5 subsection 3 or 4 for a licensee or a holder of a certificate as a chiropractor's assistant if the licensee or holder of a certificate 6 7 submits to the Board proof that the licensee or holder of a certificate was in active military service which prevented the 8 licensee or holder of a certificate from completing the 9 requirements for continuing education during the 24 months 10 immediately preceding the renewal date of the license or 11 12 certificate.

13 7. A licensee is not required to comply with the requirements 14 of subsection 3 until the first odd-numbered year after the year the 15 Board issues to the licensee an initial license to practice as a 16 chiropractor in this State.

17 <del>[7.]</del> 8. A [certificate] holder of a certificate as a 18 *chiropractor's assistant* is not required to comply with the 19 requirements of subsection 4 until the first even-numbered year after 20 the Board issues to the *[certificate]* holder *of a certificate* an initial 21 certificate to practice as a chiropractor's assistant in this State.

22 The Board may waive the renewal fee for a licensee or <del>[8.]</del> 9. 23 holder of a certificate as a chiropractor's assistant if the licensee or holder of a certificate submits proof to the Board that the 24 25 licensee or holder of a certificate was in active military service at the time the renewal fee was due. 26 27

**10.** If a licensee fails to:

28 (a) [Pay] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 9, pay the 29 renewal fee by January 1 of an odd-numbered year;

30 (b) [Submit] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5 or 6, 31 *submit* proof of continuing education pursuant to subsection 3;

32 (c) Notify the Board of a change in the location of his or her 33 office pursuant to NRS 634.129; or

(d) Submit all information required to complete the renewal,

 $\rightarrow$  the license **[is]** automatically **[suspended]** expires and, except as 35 otherwise provided in NRS 634.131, may be reinstated only upon 36 37 the payment, by January 1 of the even-numbered year following the year in which the license **was suspended**, expired, of the required 38 39 fee for reinstatement in addition to the renewal fee.

40 **19.** If a holder of a certificate as a chiropractor's assistant 41 fails to:

42 (a) [Pay] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 9, pay the 43 renewal fee by January 1 of an even-numbered year;

44 (b) [Submit] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5 or 6, 45 *submit* proof of continuing education pursuant to subsection 4;



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1 (c) Notify the Board of a change in the location of his or her 2 office pursuant to NRS 634.129; or (d) Submit all information required to complete the renewal, 3  $\rightarrow$  the certificate **[is]** automatically **[suspended]** expires and may be 4 5 reinstated only upon the payment of the required fee for 6 reinstatement in addition to the renewal fee. 7 **Sec.** 7. NRS 634.131 is hereby amended to read as follows: 1. If a license *[has been automatically suspended]* 8 634.131 9 expires pursuant to the provisions of subsection [8] 10 of NRS 10 634.130 and the license was not reinstated pursuant to the provisions of that subsection, the person who held the license may 11 12 apply to the Board to have the license reinstated to active status. 13 An applicant to have **[a suspended]** an expired license 2. 14 reinstated to active status pursuant to subsection 1 must: 15 (a) Either: 16 (1) Submit satisfactory evidence to the Board: 17 (I) That the applicant has maintained an active practice in 18 another state, territory or country within the preceding 5 years; 19 (II) From all other licensing agencies which have issued 20 the applicant a license that he or she is in good standing and has no 21 legal actions pending against him or her; and 22 (III) That the applicant has participated in a program of 23 continuing education in accordance with NRS 634.130 for the year 24 in which he or she seeks to be reinstated to active status; or 25 (2) Score 75 percent or higher on an examination prescribed 26 by the Board on the provisions of this chapter and the regulations 27 adopted by the Board; and 28 (b) Pay: 29 (1) The fee for the biennial renewal of a license to practice 30 chiropractic; and 31 (2) The fee for reinstating a license to practice chiropractic 32 which has *[been suspended or revoked.]* expired. 33 3. If any of the requirements set forth in subsection 2 are not met by an applicant for the reinstatement of [a suspended] an 34 35 *expired* license to active status, the Board, before reinstating the 36 license of the applicant to active status: 37 (a) Must hold a hearing to determine the professional 38 competency and fitness of the applicant; and 39 (b) May require the applicant to: (1) Pass the Special Purposes Examination for Chiropractic 40 41 prepared by the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners; and 42 (2) Satisfy any additional requirements that the Board deems 43 to be necessary.





1	Sec. 8. NRS 634.135 is hereby amended to read as	follows:
2	634.135 1. The Board may charge and collect	fees not to
3	exceed:	
4		
5	For an application for a license to practice	
6	chiropractic	\$200.00
7	For an examination for a license to practice	
8	chiropractic	
9	For an application for, and the issuance of, a	
10	certificate as a chiropractor's assistant	
11	For an examination for a certificate as a	
12	chiropractor's assistant	
13	For the issuance of a license to practice	
14	chiropractic	
15	For the biennial renewal of a license to practice	
16	chiropractic	1 000 00
17	For the biennial renewal of an inactive license	
18	to practice chiropractic	300.00
19	For the biennial renewal of a certificate as a	
20	chiropractor's assistant	200.00
21	For the restoration to active status of an inactive	
22	license to practice chiropractic	300.00
23	For reinstating a license to practice chiropractic	
24	which has <i>expired pursuant to NRS 634.130</i>	
25	or has been suspended for revoked	500.00
$\frac{23}{26}$	For reinstating a certificate as a chiropractor's	
27	assistant which has the suspended	
$\frac{2}{28}$	<i>expired</i> pursuant to NRS 634.130 or has	
29	been suspended	100.00
30	For a review of any subject on the examination	25.00
31	For the issuance of a duplicate license or for	
32	changing the name on a license	35.00
33	For written verification of licensure or issuance	
34	of a certificate of good standing	25.00
35	For providing a list of persons who are licensed	
36	to practice chiropractic to a person who is	
37	not licensed to practice chiropractic	25.00
38	For providing a list of persons who were	
39	licensed to practice chiropractic following	
40	the most recent examination of the Board to	
40	a person who is not licensed to practice	
42	chiropractic	10.00
42	For a set of mailing labels containing the names	
43	and addresses of the persons who are	
44	licensed to practice chiropractic in this State	35.00
чJ	neensed to practice enhopiactic in this state	
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1	For providing a conv of the statutes regulations
1 2	For providing a copy of the statutes, regulations and other rules governing the practice of
3	chiropractic in this State to a person who is
4	not licensed to practice chiropractic\$25.00
5	For each page of a list of continuing education
6	courses that have been approved by the
7	Board
8	For an application to a preceptor program
9	offered by the Board to graduates of
10	chiropractic schools or colleges
11	For an application for a student or chiropractor
12	to participate in the preceptor program
13	established by the Board pursuant to
14	NRS 634.137
15	For a review by the Board of a course offered
16	by a chiropractic school or college or a
17	course of continuing education in
18	chiropractic
19	
20	2. In addition to the fees set forth in subsection 1, the Board
21	may charge and collect reasonable and necessary fees for the
22	expedited processing of a request or for any other incidental service
23	it provides.
24	3. For a check or other method of payment made payable to the Board or tendered to the Board that is returned to the Board or
25 26	
20 27	otherwise dishonored upon presentation for payment, the Board shall assess and collect a fee in the amount established by the State
27	Controller pursuant to NRS 353C.115.
28 29	Sec. 9. NRS 634.204 is hereby amended to read as follows:
30	634.204 1. Any person:
31	(a) Whose practice of chiropractic has been limited; or
32	(b) Whose license to practice chiropractic has been suspended
33	until further order, [or revoked,]
34	$\rightarrow$ by an order of the Board may apply to the Board after a
35	reasonable period for removal of the limitation or restoration of his
36	or her license.
37	2. In hearing the application, the Board:
38	(a) May require the person to submit to a mental or physical
39	examination by physicians or other appropriate persons whom it
40	designates and submit such other evidence of changed conditions
41	and of fitness as it deems proper;
42	(b) Shall determine whether under all the circumstances the time
43	of the application is reasonable; and
44	(c) May deny the application or modify or rescind its order as it
45	deems the evidence and the public safety warrant.
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- **Sec. 10.** NRS 634.225 is hereby amended to read as follows: 634.225 A chiropractor shall not pierce or sever any body tissue, except [to draw blood] for diagnostic purposes.



