

Chiropractic Examiners, Board of

Agency History

The State Board of Chiropractic Examiners was created by the General Assembly of 1917 and charged with examining, licensing, and disciplining chiropractors throughout the state. It was to consist of three chiropractors of recognized integrity and ability, of whom no more than two were to be graduates of the same chiropractic school. After the first appointees completed staggered terms, their successors served terms of three years. They were appointed by the governor from a list of nominees submitted annually by an independent professional body, the North Carolina Board of Chiropractors. Members of the state board were empowered to elect officers and to fill vacancies through an election within the North Carolina Board of Chiropractors. In a legislative act of 1933, the professional body was recognized by its new name, the North Carolina Chiropractic Association.

Only minor amendments were made to the original statutes during the six decades following the examining board's creation. In 1977, however, the state called for a periodic review and possible termination or re-establishment of certain licensing and regulatory agencies. In this movement of regulatory reform, the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners was called up for examination by the Governmental Evaluation Commission, also known as the Sunset Commission.

The General Assembly of 1979 acted on several of the commission's recommendations. It revised elements of the board's membership and tenure, and gave the state board, rather than the Chiropractic Association, a role in the appointment process. The board was increased from three to seven members, including one lay member appointed by the governor for four years. The six professional members were required to have been practicing chiropractors in the state for a minimum of ten consecutive years preceding their appointments. No more than three could be graduates of the same school. These appointments were to be made by the governor from a list submitted by the state board rather than by the North Carolina Chiropractic Association, and nominations to the list would be made by the licensees themselves in a voting process coordinated by state board members.

The General Assembly of 1981 made several additional changes in the areas of professional discipline and election procedure. The state board was given authority to place a practitioner on probationary status and to permanently revoke a license. Its grounds for disciplinary action were expanded to include such infractions as false or misleading advertising; unethical conduct; and unacceptable care in terms of standards and regulations adopted by the board. Instead of appointing all six of the chiropractic members of the board, the governor was to appoint four, while the lieutenant governor (as president of the Senate) and the speaker of the House of Representatives selected one member each. The qualifying requirement of ten years of practice within the state was reduced to eight years.

Agency History (cont.)

The 1983 General Assembly required the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House recommend two members for appointment by the General Assembly. The state board continued to provide these officials a list of provide these officials a list of recommended nominees voted upon by the state's chiropractic licensees.

REFERENCES:

P.L., 1917, c. 73.

P.L., 1933, c. 442.

S.L., 1949, c. 785, s. 3.

S.L., 1963, c. 646.

S.L., 1967, c. 263.

S.L., 1977, cc. 712, 1109.

S.L., 1979, c. 108.

S.L., 1981, c. 766.

S.L., 1983, c. 717, ss. 100-106.

G.S. 90-139 through 90-157.2 [1993].

North Carolina Governmental Evaluation Commission. FINAL COMMISSION
REPORT: NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC
EXAMINERS. Raleigh, 1980. Pp. 1-38.

Secretary-Treasurer's Records, 1919-1963

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<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Contents</u>
	Correspondence
1	Akron—Kretzschmar
2	LaBorwit—Oxy-Crystine Corporation
3	Pacific Chiropractic College, Inc.—Sistare
4	Skinner—Zimmerman
	Licensees' Applications
5	Abner—Austin
6	Dalton—Hutchins
7	Idol—Myrick
8	Neal—Swaim
9	Taylor—Young
	Miscellaneous
10	Applications, Blank, n.d.
	Brochures, n.d.
	Conference of State Boards of Chiropractic Transcripts, 1919
	Directory, Coolemee and Mocksville, 1920s
	Examination Materials, n.d.
	Minutes of the board, 1935
	Lists, n.d.
	Newsclippings, n.d.