



Brandy Spaulding, DC
Interested Party Testimony – House Bill 484
June 2, 2020

Chairman Lipps, Ranking Member Boyd and members of the House Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on House Bill 484. My name is Dr. Brandy Spaulding. I am a chiropractic physician and Interim Executive Director for the Ohio State Chiropractic Association (OSCA).

Today I testify as an Interested Party with concerns regarding HB 484. The OSCA appreciates the dialogue between our association and the Ohio Athletic Trainers Association (OATA) regarding language in HB 484. Upon receiving and reviewing the proposed changes on Friday May 29, we have some concerns remaining and have been engaged in dialogue with the OATA regarding these concerns.

ICD-10 is the current classification for healthcare professionals with the ability to diagnose. A subset of diagnoses, broken down by profession with the “limited ability” to provide a profession-specific diagnosis, does not exist. The outstanding questions are, what does athletic training diagnosis mean? What is the intent of this diagnosis? And what does it mean that “an athletic training diagnosis is not a medical diagnosis?” Without clarification of these questions, will there be unintended consequences? If an athletic training diagnosis is not a medical diagnosis, is it for record keeping purposes only? Can it be billed to a third-party payer? Must a healthcare professional with the ability to diagnose provide the official diagnosis?

In many instances, chiropractic physicians and athletic trainers work collaboratively as members of the same medical team and both professions are involved in treatment of physical injuries of the musculoskeletal system. The OSCA recognizes that the athletic training college curriculum does not include spinal manipulation or mobilization and we do not want to see, for example, a weekend “training” course create a loophole that would allow some athletic trainers to engage in this practice. We have received complaints over the years from our members relaying instances in which this has happened and do not feel this is in the best interest of the public.

We would also suggest that chiropractic physicians be included in the collaboration agreement. As a healthcare profession that largely treats musculoskeletal injuries and is included in the medical staff of many high school, collegiate, amateur and professional sports teams, and whereas the language states the collaboration can include one or more physicians, it would be a natural inclusion to allow chiropractic physicians to participate in the collaboration agreement.



The OSCA respects and acknowledges the role filled by athletic trainers in the care of athletes and as a valued member of the healthcare profession. We are hopeful to continue the dialogue with the OATA and the bill sponsors regarding our aforementioned concerns so as to work toward becoming a neutral interested party.

Chairman Lipps and members of the House Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written interested party testimony and please do not hesitate to let me know if anyone has any questions or would like further information.

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