



April 30, 2015

**OHIO STATE CHIROPRACTIC BOARD TESTIMONY
BIENNIAL OPERATING BUDGET 2016-2017**

**Finance - Medicaid Subcommittee
Senator Dave Burke, Chair**

Good Afternoon – Mr. Chairman - Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you. The State Chiropractic Board is comprised of four chiropractic physicians and one representative of the public and employs a staff of six full time employees to carry out its duties. The Board receives no General Revenue Funding, with fees entirely supporting the Board's operational costs.

The Board's mission is to proactively protect the health and welfare of Ohio's citizens. In order to accomplish this mission, the Board fulfills numerous responsibilities to make certain that the citizens of the state of Ohio are afforded care from competent and qualified chiropractic physicians. These responsibilities include:

Licensing qualified Chiropractic Physicians
Licensing qualified Chiropractic Physicians to Perform Acupuncture
Biennial Chiropractic and Acupuncture License Renewal
Approving Continuing Education
Issuing Temporary Licenses
Investigation of Complaints
Discipline and Monitoring

The Board performs numerous other activities and services such as maintaining an online jurisprudence exam for licensure applicants; license verification; clarifying/interpreting its laws and rules; administrative rules filings and development; filling public records requests; and administrative functions such as fiscal, human resources, payroll processing, records retention, inventory management, and website maintenance.

The Board continually strives to meet the Governor's ongoing efforts to enhance the climate of economic competitiveness and job growth in Ohio while restraining spending and improving services for taxpayers. To meet these efforts, the Board continues to improve upon the timeliness of investigations and discipline, as well as compliance initiatives for licensees, and the Board has streamlined the licensure and license renewal process so that doctors can begin to work and continue to work in Ohio without unnecessary delay.

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The Board maintains online address change reporting and continuing education program registration to simplify its processes. A new online customer service satisfaction survey provides the Board with feedback on its customer service, timeliness, accuracy, helpfulness and ease of use of its website. The Board continues to work with licensees to help get them into compliance with the Board's laws and rules before an issue becomes a disciplinary matter, and to further assist licensees with compliance, the Board will be implementing free online laws and rules education in FY 16. In the upcoming biennium the Board also plans to launch a new Elicense system to accept online filing of license applications and license renewals as well as other self-service tools for licensees.

The Board's fiscal challenges continue to be attributed to rising costs, particularly DAS charges, credit card processing fees, IT charges, and increased payroll costs. As a single program agency with over 90% of its budget attributed to fixed expenses, it is difficult to generate significant cost savings from year to year. However, the Board has made substantial strides in cost containment over the past few years. Converting to an online Jurisprudence exam and eliminating a car lease has resulted in substantial cost savings. Prior to FY 2014/2015, the Board converted to biennial license renewal and reduced the number of Board meetings conducted. The Board continues all of these cost savings measures. Fiscal responsibility has enabled the Board to maintain its current fee structure since 1997.

The Board's ongoing goals continue to include conducting investigations promptly and thoroughly; continuing and developing new compliance initiatives; imposing timely discipline when warranted; licensing new applicants and renewing licensees promptly; and identifying ways to improve CE processes and compliance. The Board's budget request reflects the necessary funding for the Board to carry out these duties in order to ensure that Ohio's citizens obtain care from competent and qualified practitioners.

Licensure, renewal and regulation are the core of the Board's mission and the Board respectfully requests that its full Activity A and B requests for FY 2016/2017 budget be granted so that it may continue to regulate the chiropractic profession for the safety of Ohio's citizens.

Thank you for the opportunity to present the Ohio State Chiropractic Board's 2016/2017 biennial budget request.

Kelly Caudill
Executive Director