

1701 Clarendon Blvd TEL 703 276 8800 Suite 200 FAX 703 243 2593 Arlington, VA 22209 WEB acatoday.org





September 20, 2017

Hon. Mark Mustio, Chair Professional Licensure Committee PA House of Representatives 416 Irvis Office Building Harrisburg, PA 17120

Hon. Harry Readshaw, Minority Chair Professional Licensure Committee PA House of Representatives 221 Irvis Office Building Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Chairmen Mustio and Readshaw:

I am writing on behalf of the American Chiropractic Association (ACA) and its 310 members in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The ACA is the largest professional association in the United States representing doctors of chiropractic. ACA promotes the highest standards of ethics and patient care, contributing to the health and well-being of millions of chiropractic patients.

ACA lobbies for pro-chiropractic patient legislation and policies, promotes a positive public image of chiropractic, supports research, provides professional and educational opportunities for doctors of chiropractic, and offers leadership for the advancement of the profession.

This letter comes in strong support of HB 1737, introduced by Rep. Adam Ravenstahl.

As you know, the legislation would allow chiropractic interns and students to perform chiropractic activities under the supervision of a licensee, instructor or supervisor. Currently, due to an oversight in the language of the original Chiropractic law, it is unclear whether a student can obtain clinical experience within the Commonwealth. There are no chiropractic educational programs in the Commonwealth, partly because this specific allowance does not exist. This lessens the chance of that student becoming a practitioner and remaining in the Commonwealth.

We understand that the University of Pittsburgh is seriously considering establishing a school for Chiropractic which would provide opportunities for students, faculty, and chiropractic professionals in Western Pennsylvania and throughout the state. It would

enhance the reputation of the University as a world class leader in physical medicine and would allow students to study, work, and raise a family in Pennsylvania.

The clarification of current law would allow the University to proceed with its plans. We ask that you place HB 1737 on the agenda of the House Professional Licensure Committee as soon as possible. We also urge you and your colleagues to act favorably on this important legislation.

With best wishes,

David Herd, D.C., President

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Cc: PCA, Rep. Ravenstahl

Dan Schatzberg, D.C., ACA State Delegate