

PO BOX 4108
TOPEKA, KS 66604

REBECCA RICE

ATTORNEY AT LAW

PHONE: 785.271.5462
CELL: 785.633.4962
FAX: 785.273.3705

KSLOBBYIST@cox.net

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED
TO
THE HOUSE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
re: HB 2698**

February 11, 2004

**by: Rebecca Rice, Legislative Counsel
Kansas Chiropractic Association**

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Rebecca Rice and I appear before you today on behalf of the Kansas Chiropractic Association to express appreciation for the effort Ron Hein and the radiology technicians have made to accommodate our concerns and the concerns of others regarding last session's proposed legislation.

We feel that Mr. Hein went further than others might have gone in attempting to work with the various provider groups. He was aided in these efforts by the Board of Healing Arts' staff which is appreciated by me and the KCA. Consequentially, KCA has no opposition to the registration process established in HB 2698. Because most chiropractic offices will only be affected by the sections regarding registered technicians, we are not providing comment on the licensing provisions.

-◇? -

The X-ray was invented in 1895. Chiropractic was born in 1895 by Dr. Palmer.

Although unrelated, the events seem more than "merely coincidental" because Dr. Palmer quickly discovered the value of X-ray technology when providing chiropractic treatment. He was the first healing arts practitioner to utilize X-rays for diagnostic

purposes.

Chiropractors continue to use radiology as a primary diagnostic tool. Chiropractic education emphasizes the importance of structural and functional evaluation. Typically, that evaluation can not occur without skeletal imaging.

Doctor of Chiropractic is a post-graduate degree that normally requires an additional four years of study. Cleveland Chiropractic College in Kansas City, for example, is a three-semester-per-year, four year program. While reviewing the categories of studies for this committee last year, Dr. Tom Nichols, chairman of the diagnostic sciences at Cleveland College, told the committee that during those 12 semesters, Cleveland College requires 18.5 credit/semester hours (360 clock/contact hours) of radiology study.

Clearly, chiropractic education emphasizes radiology imaging as an important aspect of providing quality chiropractic health care including recognition that training in the use of radiology equipment is fundamental to:

- obtaining accurate images, and
- avoiding harm to both the patient and to those using the equipment.

The KCA believes that the chiropractic profession has an excellent record regarding radiology imaging both by chiropractors and the staff they have trained. However, KCA also recognizes that the additional requirements in HB 2698 is not harmful to the chiropractic profession and might, in some instances, improve services from all branches of the healing arts.

Kansas chiropractors may not be in total agreement about HB 2698. You may hear from some who disagree with my comments today. However, the KCA determined that HB 2698 was a *reasonable* compromise as we attempted to accommodate both the chiropractors that desire more stringent requirements than are established in this legislation and the chiropractors who fundamentally disagree with the legislation. Because the Board of Healing Arts will make the final decision regarding what, if any, education and/or examination is required, we believe the Board will make reasonable decisions regarding both and will consider the various licensees' concerns. Therefore, the KCA believes HB 2698 is a reasonable compromise and appreciates the concessions made by the radiologic technologists association.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We will be available for any questions.