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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Christopher D. Adams.

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SB 56 Original	DIGEST 2015 Regular Session	Dorsey-Colomb
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Present law defines "practice of chiropractic" to mean holding one's self out to the public as a chiropractor and as being engaged in the business of, or the actual engagement in, the diagnosing of conditions associated with the functional integrity of the spine and treating by adjustment, manipulation, and the use of the physical and other properties of heat, light, water, electricity, sound, massage, therapeutic exercise, mobilization, mechanical devices, and other physical rehabilitation measures for the purpose of correcting interference with normal nerve transmission and expression. A chiropractor may also make recommendations relative to personal hygiene and proper nutritional practices for the rehabilitation of the patient. A chiropractor may also order such diagnostic tests as are necessary for determining conditions associated with the functional integrity of the spine.

Proposed law amends present law definition of "practice of chiropractic" to mean holding one's self out to the public as a chiropractor and as being engaged in the business of, or the actual engagement in, the examining, evaluating, and diagnosing patients of all ages for the purpose of determining the presence or absence of neuromuscular and musculoskeletal injuries, conditions, or disorders which interfere with biomechanical and neurological function and treating by adjustment, manipulation, and the use of the physical and other properties of heat, light, water, electricity, sound, massage, therapeutic exercise, mobilization, mechanical devices, and other physical rehabilitation measures.

Present law definition of "practice of chiropractic" includes while chiropractors may not directly perform or administer computerized axial tomography, nuclear magnetic resonance, and nuclear magnetic imaging, nothing shall be construed to prohibit a chiropractor from ordering such diagnostic procedures when deemed necessary by the practitioner. However, the authority to order such diagnostic tests shall not be construed so as to mandate coverage for such tests ordered by a chiropractor under any health care plan or policy of insurance, to require such coverage under any such plan or policy, or to circumvent any requirement or preauthorization for covered services by a primary care physician or precertification by an insurer or administrator of a plan or policy in accordance with the terms of a health care plan or policy.

Present law provides a chiropractor shall not order such tests or solicit an insurer or health care plan provider for coverage arrangements for such tests for the primary purpose of financial gain.

Proposed law amends present law definition of "practice of chiropractic" to include a chiropractor may counsel and instruct patients regarding health, wellness, diet, and nutrition. Further, a chiropractor may also order such diagnostic tests as are necessary for determining the patient's condition, and a chiropractor may also order, perform, and utilize x-ray procedures for the sole purpose of diagnosis.

Proposed law provides while chiropractors may not directly perform or administer computerized

axial tomography, nuclear magnetic resonance, and nuclear magnetic imaging, nothing shall be construed to prohibit a chiropractor from ordering such diagnostic procedures when deemed necessary by the practitioner.

Present law provides a chiropractor licensed under present law is entitled to utilize x-ray procedures for the sole purpose of chiropractic analysis. Such x-ray procedures shall be administered with efficient exposure techniques and optimal operation of radiation equipment in order to minimize the amount of and repetition of x-ray exposure to which a patient is subjected during such analysis. Present law provides such procedures shall not include radio-therapy, fluoroscopy, or any other form of ionizing radiation, except x-ray, which may be used only for the purpose of chiropractic analysis.

Proposed law removes this language and provides that a chiropractor may also order, perform, and utilize x-ray procedures for the sole purpose of diagnosis.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 37:2801(3) and 2817)