

SENATE BILL NO. 510—COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND LABOR

MARCH 26, 2001

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

SUMMARY—Authorizes certain chiropractors to engage in practice of animal chiropractic.  
(BDR 54-1209)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.  
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to the practice of chiropractic; authorizing certain chiropractors who are certified in animal chiropractic to engage in the practice of animal chiropractic without the order, referral, direction or supervision of a licensed veterinarian; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

- 1     **Section 1.** Chapter 634 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a  
2 new section to read as follows:  
3     ***1. A person who:***  
4         ***(a) Holds a license to practice chiropractic issued by the board;***  
5         ***(b) Is not licensed as a veterinarian pursuant to chapter 638 of NRS;***  
6         ***and***  
7         ***(c) Is certified in animal chiropractic by the American Veterinary***  
8         ***Chiropractic Association or its successor,***  
9         ***may engage in the practice of animal chiropractic without the order,***  
10        ***referral, direction or supervision of a person who is licensed as a***  
11        ***veterinarian pursuant to chapter 638 of NRS.***  
12     ***2. Before examining or performing a chiropractic adjustment on an***  
13     ***animal, a person who engages in the practice of animal chiropractic***  
14     ***pursuant to subsection 1 shall disclose that he is not a licensed***  
15     ***veterinarian to the owner of the animal or the person delivering the***  
16     ***animal for treatment.***  
17     ***3. The board shall adopt regulations setting forth standards for the***  
18     ***practice of animal chiropractic. The regulations adopted by the board***  
19     ***pursuant to this subsection must be consistent with the policies and***  
20     ***guidelines established for the practice of animal chiropractic by the***  
21     ***American Veterinary Chiropractic Association or its successor.***



4. *As used in this section:*

(a) *"Animal" includes a wild or domestic mammal, amphibian, fowl, bird, fish or reptile. The term excludes a human being.*

(b) *"Animal chiropractic" means the science, art and practice of examining animals and performing manipulations and chiropractic adjustments of the vertebral joints, extremity joints and cranial sutures of animals.*

Sec. 2. NRS 638.008 is hereby amended to read as follows:

638.008 1. "Practice of veterinary medicine" means:

~~1.1~~ (a) To diagnose, treat, correct, change, relieve or prevent animal disease, deformity, defect, injury or other physical or mental conditions, including, but not limited to:

~~1.1(a)~~ (1) The prescription or the administration of any drug, medicine, biologic, apparatus, application, anesthetic or other therapeutic or diagnostic substance or technique;

~~1.1(b)~~ (2) The collection of embryos;

~~1.1(c)~~ (3) Testing for pregnancy or for correcting sterility or infertility;

~~1.1(d)~~ (4) Acupuncture;

~~1.1(e)~~ (5) Dentistry;

~~1.1(f)~~ ~~Chiropractic procedures;~~

~~1.1(g)~~ (6) *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, chiropractic procedures;*

(7) Surgery, including cosmetic surgery; or

~~1.1(h)~~ (8) Rendering advice or recommendation with regard to any of these.

~~1.2~~ (b) To represent, directly or indirectly, publicly or privately, an ability and willingness to do any act described in ~~subsection 1.~~

~~3.1~~ *paragraph (a).*

(c) To use any title, words, abbreviation or letters in a manner or under circumstances which induce the belief that the person using them is qualified to do any act described in ~~subsection 1.1~~ *paragraph (a)*, except if the person is a veterinarian.

2. *The term does not include the practice of animal chiropractic pursuant to section 1 of this act.*

Sec. 3. NRS 638.070 is hereby amended to read as follows:

638.070 1. The board shall adopt regulations providing an administrative fine in an amount not to exceed \$500 if an applicant for a license or the renewal of a license:

(a) Intentionally or knowingly makes a false or misleading statement on his application;

(b) Knowingly fails to submit a notarized application; or

(c) Fails to inform the board of any change of information which was contained in his application.

2. The board may adopt regulations:

(a) Necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter;

(b) Concerning the rights and responsibilities of veterinary interns and externs and graduates of schools of veterinary medicine located outside the United States or Canada;



- 1 (c) Concerning the rights and responsibilities of a veterinarian's  
2 employees who are not licensed nor working towards obtaining a license  
3 pursuant to this chapter and whose duties require them to spend a  
4 substantial portion of their time in direct contact with animals;  
5 (d) Concerning requirements for continuing education;  
6 (e) Establishing procedures to approve schools which confer the degree  
7 of veterinary technician or its equivalent;  
8 (f) Concerning the disposition of animals which are abandoned or left  
9 unclaimed at the office of a veterinarian;  
10 (g) Establishing sanitary requirements for facilities in which veterinary  
11 medicine is practiced, including, but not limited to, precautions to be taken  
12 to prevent the creation or spread of any infectious or contagious disease;  
13 and  
14 (h) Concerning alternative veterinary medicine, including, but not  
15 limited to, acupuncture, chiropractic procedures, dentistry, cosmetic  
16 surgery, holistic medicine, and the provision of such services by a licensed  
17 provider of health care under the direction of a licensed veterinarian.  
18 *Regulations adopted by the board pursuant to this paragraph must not*  
19 *apply to a person who engages in the practice of animal chiropractic*  
20 *pursuant to section 1 of this act.*  
21 3. The board may:  
22 (a) Employ attorneys, investigators, hearing officers for disciplinary  
23 hearings, and other professional consultants and clerical personnel  
24 necessary to the discharge of its duties;  
25 (b) Conduct investigations and take and record evidence as to any  
26 matter cognizable by it;  
27 (c) Maintain offices in as many localities in the state as it considers  
28 necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter; and  
29 (d) Purchase or rent any office space, equipment and supplies that it  
30 considers necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.  
31 **Sec. 4.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

