

# BILL

No. 81 of 1923.

An Act to Regulate the Practice of Chiropractic.

(Assented to \_\_\_\_\_, 1923.)

**H**IS MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Alberta, enacts as follows:

- 1.** This Act may be cited as "*The Chiropractic Act.*"
- 2.** In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—
  - (a) "Minister" shall mean the Minister of Health;
  - (b) "Chiropractic" is hereby defined as the method of treatment of human beings for disease and the causes of disease by means of adjustments by hand of the articulations of the spinal column and other adjustments by hand incidental thereto;
  - (c) "Chiropractor" means a person who practises chiropractic as herein defined;
  - (d) "University" shall mean the University of Alberta;
  - (e) "Board" shall mean the Advisory Board appointed under the provisions of this Act.

**3.** The Minister shall keep or cause to be kept a register for the purpose of registration of all chiropractors in the Province who are from time to time by this Act authorized to practise as chiropractors.

**4.**—(1) There shall be constituted an Advisory Board of Examiners consisting of five members to be appointed by the Minister, of whom two shall be persons resident in the Province and graduates of a School of Chiropractic which requires for its course of instruction not less than six months' resident study in each of three years; two members of the Faculty of Medicine of the University, to be nominated to the Minister by the President of the University; and a chairman.

(2) The members of the Board shall be appointed in each year in the month of July and shall hold office from the last day of July in the year of their appointment until the first day of August in the next ensuing year, and shall be eligible for reappointment.

(3) The Minister may at any time fill any vacancies in the Board which may from time to time occur.

(4) The Minister may from time to time prescribe and fix the dates upon which the Board shall meet and rules and regulations governing the conduct and procedure of the Board, the holding of examinations and the remuneration to be paid to any person or persons in respect of any service in pursuance of this Act.

(5) The Board may adjourn its meetings from time to time; four shall constitute a quorum; and the chairman shall be entitled to vote upon all motions, and shall in the event of a tie have a casting vote.

(6) The Board shall cause a complete minute to be kept of all its proceedings and shall at every subsequent meeting confirm the minutes of the last previous meeting; and the minutes as confirmed shall be signed by the chairman and secretary and when so signed shall be deemed to be conclusive evidence of any matter therein stated.

**5.** From and after the first day of July, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three, no person shall in the Province of Alberta practise as a chiropractor either directly or indirectly unless he is then the holder of a valid certificate of registration issued in pursuance to this Act.

**6.**—(1) Any chiropractor who has been a resident of the Province for the continuous term of one year prior to the date of the passing of this Act, and who has during the same time been practising as a chiropractor, and who is the holder of a diploma of a school of chiropractic, granted to the holder after the completion of a course of resident tuition at such school of not less than six months in each of two years, who is of good moral character, and who is over the age of twenty-one years, may apply to the Minister at any time on or before the first day of July, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three, to be registered under the provisions of this Act.

(2) The application shall be in writing and shall be in such form as the Minister shall from time to time prescribe, and the Minister may require the applicant to furnish any information or evidence of the matters therein stated as he deems proper.

(3) The applicant shall pay to the Minister the sum of fifty dollars at the time of making such application, as a fee.

(4) The Minister shall submit the application together with all information and evidence to the Board who shall as soon thereafter as possible, proceed to examine

and inquire into the same, and shall certify to the Minister as to whether or not the applicant is a person having the qualifications set out in subsection (1) of this section.

**7.**—(1) On and after the first day of July, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three, every person desiring to be registered under this Act shall make application to the Minister in writing in such form as the Minister may from time to time prescribe, and shall at the same time pay to the Minister the sum of fifty dollars as a fee thereon.

(2) The applicant shall submit evidence to the satisfaction of the Minister, together with such evidence in support thereof as the Minister may require—

- (a) that he passed such examination as to his educational qualifications as the University shall from time to time fix as the minimum standard for admission to the study of medicine, or have an educational standing equal thereto, the same, however, not in any event to be of lower standard than grade XI as fixed by the regulations of the Department of Education;
- (b) that he is the holder of a diploma issued to him by a school of chiropractic recognized by the Board; provided that no school of chiropractic shall be recognized which does not require as a condition precedent to the granting of a diploma a residence course of not less than three years of six months in each year and a minimum of twenty-four hundred hours of study;
- (c) that he has attended at least ninety per cent. of the total hours of each kind of study prescribed for such course;
- (d) that he is a person of good moral character;
- (e) that he is over the age of twenty-one years.

**8.** The applicant shall submit himself to such examination as to his qualifications as the Board may direct and such examination shall be of a practical nature to ascertain the general knowledge of the applicant as a chiropractor, and more particularly as to his knowledge in anatomy, physiology and histology, chemistry, sanitary science and hygiene, general diagnosis, pathology and bacteriology, and the principles and practice of chiropractic treatment.

**9.** Every applicant who satisfactorily passes the said examination, and satisfies the Minister as to the matters set out in section 7 hereof, shall be entitled to be registered under the provisions of this Act.

**10.** Every registration under this Act and every certificate thereof shall remain in force until the first day of July after the date of such registration or renewal thereof as hereinafter mentioned.

**11.**—(1) The Minister may renew the registration of a chiropractor and upon such renewal grant a certificate in form B in the schedule hereto upon application of a registered chiropractor made in such form as the Minister may prescribe, and upon production of evidence to the satisfaction of the Minister that the applicant is of good morals and of reputable professional character.

(2) There shall be paid to the Minister upon every such application the sum of ten dollars as a fee.

**12.** Every registration made and every certificate issued in pursuance of this Act shall be forthwith cancelled by the Minister upon it being proved to him that the person registered has been convicted of any offence under *The Criminal Code*, or of any offence under *The Medical Profession Act*, or upon the Board certifying to the Minister, after proceeding in manner hereinafter provided, that the registered person has become registered under this Act by means of any fraud or has been guilty of conduct of an immoral or unprofessional character; and such cancellation shall be made by an entry in the register signed by the Minister as follows: "Registration cancelled this . . . day of . . . . ., 19. . . . . Minister of Health."

**13.** Upon it being made to appear to the Minister by the sworn declaration in writing of any person that any registered chiropractor has been guilty of conduct of an immoral or unprofessional character, he shall notify in writing the person complained against of the substance of the complaint and that such complaint will be investigated by the Board at a meeting thereof to be held at a date and place to be named therein, not earlier than fourteen days from the date of the service of such notice; and such notice shall be deemed to be duly served upon being sent by prepaid registered mail addressed to the person complained against, at his registered address.

**14.** The Minister shall cause the Board to meet at such time or times as he may direct, for the purpose of investigating into any complaint.

**15.** Upon meeting to investigate any complaint referred to the Board by the Minister, the Board shall hear the testimony of witnesses upon oath, which oath shall be administered by the chairman or acting chairman of the Board, touching the complaint, and shall afford full oppor-

tunity of cross-examination of witnesses and for making defence and answer to the said complaint, and shall hear counsel (if any) appearing with the consent of the Minister in support of the charge or appearing for the defence.

**16.** The Board shall proceed to determine upon the truth of the complaint, and shall decide the same by the vote of the majority, and shall certify to the Minister by writing under the hand of the chairman, that the complaint has or has not been proved as the case may be.

**17.** No chiropractor whose registration has been cancelled under the provisions of section 12 of this Act, shall again be registered under the provisions of this Act.

**18.** No registered chiropractor shall prescribe or administer drugs or medicinal preparations or treat any venereal disease, or any communicable disease, as defined by *The Public Health Act*, nor shall he perform any surgical operation, or practise obstetrics or any branch of medicine or osteopathy.

**19.**—(1) A registered chiropractor may use words or symbols to indicate his calling, and for this purpose may use the term "Doctor," provided it is used in connection with words indicating he is a chiropractor.

(2) No registered chiropractor shall use any abbreviations in connection with his name which suggest that he is a graduate or licentiate in medicine or surgery of any university or other diploma-granting body, or the words "Doctor" or "Physician," or "Surgeon" or "Doctor of Medicine," or "Physician and Surgeon" in connection with his name; nor shall he by advertisement, announcement or otherwise, represent or hold himself out as a physician or surgeon.

**20.** Every person who is not duly registered as required by this Act who for hire, gain, or the hope of reward, practises or professes to practise as a chiropractor within the Province shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a penalty of not less than fifty dollars and not more than five hundred dollars, and in default of payment, to a term of imprisonment of not more than three months.

**21.** Every person who contravenes any provision of this Act for the contravention of which no other penalty is imposed, shall be guilty of an offence, and liable on summary conviction to a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars and not more than one hundred dollars.

**22.** The Board shall, in respect of all inquiries held under this Act, have full power to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of any documents or writings, and for that purpose the Board may cause witness' summonses to be issued under the hand of the chairman or acting chairman of the Board requiring the attendance of the person named therein to attend to give evidence or to produce any documents or writings specified therein, or both; and any person who having been personally served with a copy of such summons and provided with reasonable conduct money, neglects to comply therewith, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable upon summary conviction to a fine not exceeding fifty dollars.

**23.** All provisions of *The Medical Profession Act*, being chapter 209 of the Revised Statutes of Alberta, 1922, so far as the same provide for the examination and registration of chiropractors, but not further or otherwise, are hereby repealed.

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SCHEDULE.

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FORM A.

THE CHIROPRACTIC ACT.

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION.

Canada }  
Province of Alberta }  
To wit:

This is to certify that . . . . .  
of . . . . .  
is duly registered under *The Chiropractic Act* and that such registration will remain in force until the first day of July, 19. . . , and will then cease to have any effect unless renewed.

Dated this . . . . . day of . . . . . 19. . .

.. . . .  
*Minister of Health.*

FORM B.

THE CHIROPRACTIC ACT.

CERTIFICATE OF RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION.

Canada }  
Province of Alberta }  
To wit: }

This is to certify that . . . . .  
of . . . . .  
is duly registered as a chiropractor under the provisions  
of the said Act and that such registration has been renewed  
and will continue in effect until the first day of July, 19 . . . .  
Dated this . . . . . day of . . . . . 19 . . . .

. . . . .  
*Minister of Health.*

No. 81.

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THIRD SESSION  
FIFTH LEGISLATURE  
13 GEORGE V  
1923

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**BILL**

An Act to Regulate the Practice of  
Chiropractic.

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Received and read the

First time.....

Second time.....

Third time.....

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HON. MR. BROWNLEE.

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1923