

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1995

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 228

Short Title: Chiropractic Care Study/LRC

(Public)

Sponsors: Senators Odom and Soles.

Referred to: Appropriations

February 20, 1995

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
2 COMMISSION TO CONTINUE THE STUDY OF CHIROPRACTIC CARE.

3 Whereas, in the western world, 80% of the population will experience
4 disabling back pain during their lives, and at any given time approximately 7% of the
5 adult population in the United States is experiencing a bout of back pain that has been
6 continuing for more than two weeks; and

7 Whereas, in 1992 the best estimate of direct and indirect costs of back pain in
8 the United States is \$60,000,000,000, and in the United States in 1990 workers
9 compensation costs for back and spinal care were about \$30,000,000,000; and

10 Whereas, independent research authorities such as the RAND Corporation
11 reported in 1991 that spinal manipulation was now proven an appropriate treatment for
12 most back pain patients; and

13 Whereas, chiropractic care is now the third largest primary health care
14 profession in the western world after medicine and dentistry with approximately 80% of
15 chiropractic care being for muscular-related pain, 10% being for migraine headaches,
16 and 10% being for a wide variety of disorders caused fully or in part by spine lesions;
17 and

18 Whereas, studies show that chiropractic management is highly cost-effective,
19 reflecting almost a two to one advantage in work days lost and reduction in cost per
20 injury; and

21 Whereas, the LRC Study Committee on Chiropractic Care recommends
22 continued study of chiropractic care and the cost-effectiveness thereof;

1 Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

2 Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission may study:

3 (1) The efficient and effective delivery of appropriate chiropractic care;

4 (2) The extensive demand for chiropractic care as well as patient freedom
5 of choice concerning appropriate care;

6 (3) The extent to which public and private hospitals in North Carolina
7 extend practice privileges to chiropractors;

8 (4) The role of chiropractic care in the managed care environment; and

9 (5) The cost-effectiveness of chiropractic care.

10 Sec. 2. The Legislative Research Commission may make an interim report of
11 the results of this study, including legislative recommendations, to the 1995 General
12 Assembly, Regular Session 1996, and shall make a final report to the 1997 General
13 Assembly.

14 Sec. 3. This resolution is effective upon ratification.