

Testimony for Legal Services Committee, 1/8/13

Dr. Ken Spresser

Thank you Representative Gardner and members of the Legal Services Committee for allowing me to address you today. I have been a chiropractor for 30 years and have served in leadership for both the American Chiropractic Association and the Colorado Chiropractic Association for decades. I have been on the pulse of the pro-drug movement by chiropractors since 1997 when a small group of chiropractors attempted to introduce drugs into the Chiropractic Practice Act. I testified against it then and I am here for the same reason today.

The laundry list of items that a minority in my profession want to inject into patients are defined as legend drugs in Federal Law and require a prescription. Prescriptive drugs should not fall under the purview of a chiropractor. Chiropractors do not have the appropriate training to administer drugs by injection. Chiropractors don't learn to inject drugs through residencies or internships or any other clinical rotations.

Let's pretend for just a moment that this committee were to allow, as an example the injection of botanical medicines as proposed by the Chiropractic Board of Examiners under rule 7C. The word "botanic" means pertaining to or derived from plants. Many drugs like digitalis, morphine, cocaine, belladonna, and penicillin are botanic in nature. We don't need chiropractors injecting these substances into their patients.

Typically chiropractic programs are accredited by The Council on Chiropractic Education but here in Colorado, this minority group of chiropractors would seek their accrediting from a Colorado company called American Chiropractic Physicians Credentialing Center, promulgated by a chiropractor out of Franktown. Also, the only nationally recognized examining body in the chiropractic profession is the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners and they do not offer any testing for chiropractors that want to inject drugs.

Finally, the 24 hours of study and instruction is woefully inadequate to be competent in the administration of drugs by injection. Please protect the public from this small interest group and the Chiropractic Board of Examiners that only wants to make more money by exceeding their statutory boundaries.