

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 616

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H. P. 468

House of Representatives, February 1, 1973

Referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. LaPointe of Portland.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-THREE

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**AN ACT** Revising the Law Relating to Rules and Regulations of the Board  
of Chiropractic Examination and Registration.

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Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

**Sec. 1. R. S., T. 32, § 502, amended.** The 5th sentence of section 502 of Title 32 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

Said board shall cause a seal of suitable inscription to be procured and to be affixed to such papers as may require such seal, shall keep a correct record of all its proceedings ~~and shall have power to make such rules and regulations, not inconsistent with law, as it may deem necessary for the successful enforcement of its authority and the performance of its duties.~~

**Sec. 2. R. S., T. 32, § 502, amended.** Section 502 of Title 32 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding at the end the following:

The board shall have the power to make and adopt rules, regulations and a code of ethics, not inconsistent with law, which it may deem necessary for the enforcement of its authority, the performance of its duties and the governing of the practice of chiropractic, but no rule, regulation or code of ethics shall be made that is unreasonable or that contravenes any provision of this chapter. In establishing such rules, regulations and code of ethics, the board shall, in addition to the standards set forth in other provisions of this chapter, be guided by the following standards:

1. Unprofessional. A chiropractor shall refrain from any conduct generally considered unprofessional or unethical by the profession;

2. **Business practice.** A chiropractor shall refrain from any business practice generally considered undesirable by the profession ;

3. **Integrity.** A chiropractor shall be fit to practice in the profession in terms of ability, competency and integrity.

**Sec. 3. R. S., T. 32, § 503, amended.** Section 503 of Title 32 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows :

**§ 503. Complaints; suspension or revocation of certificates**

The board, its members or agents shall investigate all complaints and all cases of noncompliance with or violation of this chapter relating to the registration of doctors of chiropractic, and shall, upon a vote of 4 members of the board, bring all such cases to the notice of the proper prosecuting officer. The Administrative Hearing Commissioner, as designated in Title 5, chapters 301 to 307, after a conviction before a proper court for crime in the course of professional business of any person to whom a certificate has been issued and after hearing may revoke the certificate and cancel the registration of the person to whom the same was issued. The board may suspend or revoke any certificate by a 4/5 vote of the entire board in any cases where such certificate has been wrongfully obtained or for any fraud connected with the said registration may suspend or revoke and the board may refuse to issue any certificate of registration for any one or more of the following causes:

1. **Felony.** Conviction of a felony as evidenced by a certified copy of the record of the court conviction ;

2. **Malpractice.** Gross malpractice ;

3. **Drunkenness and drugs.** Habitual drunkenness or habitual addiction to the use of morphine or cocaine or any other habit-forming drug or substance which could seriously impair a person's competency or ability to practice chiropractic ;

4. **Unprofessional conduct.** Engaging in conduct generally considered unprofessional or unethical in the profession ;

5. **Undesirable business practices** Engaging in any business practice generally considered undesirable by the profession ;

6. **Violating rules, regulations and code of ethics.** Willfully violating any rule, regulation or code of ethics promulgated by the board pursuant to this chapter.

**STATEMENT OF FACT**

The purpose of this bill is reflected in the title.