

THE HETRICK CENTER

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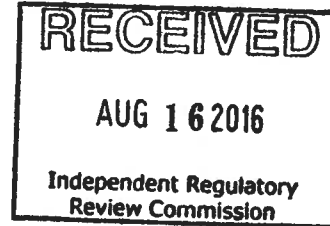
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August 15, 2016



George Bedwick, Chairman
Independent Regulatory Review Commission
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Mr. Bedwick,

I am a practicing chiropractor who has been in continuous practice for 38 years and until recently owned and oversaw 4 chiropractic facilities, employing eleven chiropractors. I am now an employee of The Hetrick Center. It is my understanding that you will be reviewing a bill that came from the PA State Board of Chiropractic regarding continuing education. I apologize for not knowing the bill number but it is my understanding that this bill will limit on-line continuing education to 50% of the required 24 hours every two years for re-licensure. I am totally in support of limiting the online continuing education for chiropractors to 50% as chiropractic is a hands on profession. We still evaluate patients using our hands and palpation is an art that cannot be learned from a computer. We are manual practitioners and 94% of every chiropractic encounter consists of a manipulation or soft tissue techniques that are done primarily using our hands. It is suspect at best that you cannot learn or improve your hands on techniques from an online course but truly need to have appropriate supervision and hands on practice when being taught or working on improving these specialized techniques. This protects the consumer. While I appreciate that none of us want to take time from our practice and/or family to attend a seminar, it is extremely important that the chiropractor be in attendance to do the hands-on work necessary to learn or improve their skills.

The courses that can be taught via online courses for example are radiology, interpretation of blood tests, review of new or updated research etc., all of which are important for a chiropractor to improve their knowledge base.

Thank you for allowing me to share my thoughts with you and the members of the Independent Regulatory Review Commission.

Respectfully,

Paul R Hetrick, D.C., C.C. E. P.