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CHIROPRACTIC
FELLOWSHIP
of Pennsylvania

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August 20, 2014

To: PA State Board of Chiropractic Examiners

Re: CFoP comment on Distance Learning

Dear PA State Board of Chiropractic Examiners,

As the president of the Chiropractic Fellowship of Pennsylvania I am writing you today to express our view on the allowance of on-line seminars for Continuing Education credits. The Chiropractic Fellowship of Pennsylvania supports the regulation as an important first step in addressing a serious problem that undermines the intent and integrity of mandatory continuing education.

While the regulation as proposed attempts to remedy the problem by limiting the number of hours allowed for credit, it does not get at the heart of the difference in the level of preparation and documentation distance learning has compared to the live presentations that have traditionally been approved.

It is our position that this method of credit should not be allowed or at least it should be modified to make the playing field fair for both methods. Since 1988 we have followed the regulations regarding approval of the seminars and certificates of attendance. The distance learning does not allow personal interaction and the enhanced educational experience. It does not comply with the application presented to the board 90 days in advance or need a new application for each date and city and course. Distance learning need not pay a \$30 fee for every course for every date and every location.

Thank you for entertaining input from our organization. I believe that allowing for on-line credits violates the letter and the intent of the Chiropractic Practice Act and the regulations in respect to the hours spent in continuing education. An on-line course that would be scheduled for a specific time (similar to a real-time Webinar) and allows for interaction with the instructor as well as other attendees would be a more valid method of CE while still allowing for new technology. A scheduled Webinar, at a specific date and time that is available on-line from any computer and demonstrates a method to validate the hours and identity of the chiropractor would more closely resemble the regulated presentations that the Fellowship provides.

In health,

David B Smith, DC
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