

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2414

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the appointment of chiropractors in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 10, 2003

Mr. MORAN of Kansas (for himself, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FILNER, and Mr. GUTIERREZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the appointment of chiropractors in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Department of Vet-  
5       erans Affairs Chiropractic Employment Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. APPOINTMENT OF CHIROPRACTORS IN THE VET-**  
2 **ERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION.**

3 (a) APPOINTMENTS.—Section 7401 of title 38,  
4 United States Code, is amended—

5 (1) by inserting “and chiropractic care” in the  
6 matter preceding paragraph (1) after “medical  
7 care”; and

8 (2) by inserting “chiropractors” in paragraph  
9 (1) after “podiatrists”.

10 (b) QUALIFICATIONS OF APPOINTEES.—Section  
11 7402(b) of such title is amended—

12 (1) by redesignating paragraph (10) as para-  
13 graph (11); and

14 (2) by inserting after paragraph (9) the fol-  
15 lowing new paragraph (10):

16 “(10) CHIROPRACTOR.—To be eligible to be ap-  
17 pointed to a chiropractor position, a person must—

18 “(A) hold the degree of doctor of chiropractic,  
19 or its equivalent, from a college of chiropractic ap-  
20 proved by the Secretary; and

21 “(B) be licensed to practice chiropractic in a  
22 State.”.

23 (c) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS.—  
24 Section 7403(a)(2) of such title is amended by adding at  
25 the end the following new subparagraph:

26 “(H) Chiropractors.”.

1 (d) GRADES AND PAY SCALES.—Section 7404(b)(1)  
 2 of such title is amended by striking the third center head-  
 3 ing in the table and inserting the following:

“CLINICAL PODIATRIST, CHIROPRACTOR, AND OPTOMETRIST  
 SCHEDULE”.

4 (e) TEMPORARY AND PART-TIME APPOINTMENTS.—  
 5 Section 7405(a) of such title is amended—

6 (1) by adding at the end of paragraph (1) the  
 7 following new subparagraph:

8 “(E) Chiropractors.”; and

9 (2) by adding at the end of paragraph (2) the  
 10 following new subparagraph:

11 “(D) Chiropractors.”.

12 (f) RESIDENCIES AND INTERNSHIPS.—Section  
 13 7406(c) of such title is amended—

14 (1) in paragraph (1)—

15 (A) by inserting “and chiropractic” after  
 16 “medical” the first place it appears; and

17 (B) by inserting “or chiropractic” after  
 18 “medical” the second place it appears;

19 (2) in paragraph (2), by inserting “or chiro-  
 20 practic” after “medical” in the matter preceding  
 21 subparagraph (A) and in subparagraph (B);

22 (3) in paragraph (3), by inserting “or chiro-  
 23 practic” after “medical” in subparagraph (A); and

1           (4) in paragraph (4), by inserting “or chiro-  
2       practic” after “medical” in subparagraph (C).

3       (g) MALPRACTICE AND NEGLIGENCE PROTECTION.—  
4       Section 7316(a) of such title is amended—

5           (1) by inserting “or chiropractic” after “med-  
6       ical” in paragraphs (1) and (2); and

7           (2) by inserting “chiropractor,” after “podia-  
8       trist,” in paragraph (2).

9       (h) TREATMENT AS SCARCE MEDICAL SPECIALISTS  
10      FOR CONTRACTING PURPOSES.—Section 7409(a) of such  
11      title is amended by inserting “chiropractors,” in the sec-  
12      ond sentence after “optometrists,”.

13      (i) REIMBURSEMENT OF CONTINUING PROFES-  
14      SIONAL EDUCATION EXPENSES.—Section 7411 of such  
15      title is amended by striking “or dentist” and inserting “,  
16      dentist, or chiropractic”.

17      (j) COLLECTIVE BARGAINING EXEMPTION.—Section  
18      7421(b) of such title is amended by adding at the end  
19      the following new paragraph:

20           “(8) Chiropractors.”.

21      (k) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
22      this section shall take effect at the end of the 180-day  
23      period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

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