



Jobs for Heroes Act Signed into Law – Chiropractors Better Able to Serve Veteran Community

January 11, 2018 (Falls Church, VA): The International Chiropractors Association (ICA) applauds the streamlining of federal regulations in the Jobs for Heroes Act signed into law by President Donald J. Trump this week.

During the last Administration, Congress passed the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) (Public Law 114–94) which created a process by which a qualified Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) physician can perform a medical examination on an eligible veteran operator of a commercial motor vehicle and provide the medical certificate necessary for an individual to operate a commercial motor vehicle.

Recognizing a disparity between the FAST Act regulations and the existing Federal Motor Safety Carrier Administration (FMSCA) regulations, Congress corrected the disparity in the Jobs for Heroes Act. This disparity clarifies that chiropractors employed by the Department of Veterans Affairs as well as physician assistants, and advance practice nurses are added to the list of health professionals eligible to become certified to conduct physical examinations if they are licensed to conduct such exams in their licensing State.

Beth Clay, Director of Government Relations for ICA stated, "The Jobs for Heroes Act is the latest example of Congress working to help veterans translate their military training into civilian jobs. By synchronizing the Veterans Affairs language of the FAST Act with the existing FMSCA language, a common problem of disparity between federal regulations is corrected. A result of this is that Doctors of Chiropractic are better able to help our nation's military and veteran community."

Ms. Clay continued, "Thirty years after the Wilk, et al vs. American Medical Association case was concluded and a restraint of trade was admitted, we are still correcting disparities created by the under the radar prejudice of medical doctors who influence policies and regulations that discriminated against chiropractors. The ICA continues to work to eliminate these discriminations in federal law, policy and regulations."

The ICA has for nearly a century made serving the nation's military veterans a top public policy priority. The very first bill to provide chiropractic benefits to veterans was introduced in Congress in 1936 at the personal request of then ICA President Dr. B. J. Palmer. ICA has been active in this type of public policy ever since.

The ICA is the world's oldest, continually operating international chiropractic professional organization representing practitioners, students, chiropractic assistants, educators, and lay persons world-wide. The ICA was founded in 1926 in Davenport, Iowa by Dr. B. J. Palmer. We are dedicated to the growth and development of the chiropractic profession based on Dr. Palmer's commitment to professional and clinical excellence and, the fundamental principle of chiropractic as a unique, separate, distinct, and drugless health care profession.

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