

Dear Licensees and Registered Facility Owners: Recently passed Sunset Legislation, SB 304, extends the Texas Board of Chiropractor Examiners for 12 more years and amends certain laws in the Chiropractic Act. Please read the following 3 important messages regarding these changes, effective on or after Sept 1, 2017. A copy of SB 304 analysis can be found here: [SB 304 Bill Analysis](#).

FOR ALL DC'S, TWO-YEAR LICENSE RENEWAL COMING SOON:

Effective **September 1, 2017, The TBCE has the option to move to a biennial chiropractic license instead of an annual license.** A chiropractic license would extend for two years instead of one, with a biennial license fee of \$300.00. The date for license renewals would remain **the first day of the licensee's birth month**, every other year. Chiropractors are still required to complete 16 hours of continuing education credit annually, which is each year of the biennial renewal period. The Board's current yearly auditing procedures on continuing education will continue. The agency will continue to provide notice of renewal and fee requirement electronically within 45 days of a licensee's renewal deadline. The agency will begin moving from annual to biennial license renewal this fall of 2017. Chiropractors should continue to renew their license on a yearly cycle until they are officially notified of the change.

FOR ALL DC'S THAT ARE REGISTERED FACILITY OWNERS:

Effective **September 1, 2017, owners of chiropractic facilities will no longer be required to register with the Board or pay a fee to operate a facility.** All facility owners will still be required to pay facility registration fees through August 31, 2017, including any facility that requires new registration. No proration, discount or refunds for a partial-year registration will be given. DC's will continue to renew their license on the first day of their birth month. **The agency will disable the ability to register facilities through the Texas.gov website on September 1, 2017.**

Rules not affected. The agency maintains authority to inspect chiropractic facilities. Chiropractors are still required to inform the Board where they practice, including any change of address or practice location, within 30 days. Non-chiropractors are still permitted to own and operate facilities. As a result, chiropractors should understand that the responsibility for compliance with all applicable statutes and rules will be incumbent upon them. Chiropractors entering into agreements, employment or practice management support contracts with other chiropractors or facility owners are urged to seek legal counsel to ensure that the agreement clearly delineates the parties' respective duties and responsibilities.

FOR ALL NON-DC FACILITY OWNERS:

Effective **September 1, 2017, Non DC owners of chiropractic facilities will no longer be required to register with the Board or pay a fee to operate a facility.** All facility owners will be required to pay current facility registration fees up until August 31, 2017, including any new facility requiring registration. No proration, discount or refunds for a partial-year registration will be given. **The agency will disable the ability to register facilities through the Texas.gov website on September 1, 2017.**

Effects of legislation. The agency will maintain authority to inspect chiropractic facilities and chiropractors are still required to keep the Board informed of their current practice location. Non-chiropractors who own and operate facilities should be aware that the TBCE will have the authority to inspect the premises where chiropractors practice, including patient records. Facility owners should be familiar with the regulations required by the health and safety code with regard to patient records **§181.001 Medical Records.**