

2013 -- S 1040

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

J O I N T R E S O L U T I O N

PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION AGAINST CHIROPRACTIC PHYSICIANS IN RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators Jabour, McCaffrey, Goodwin, Algieri, and Lombardi

Date Introduced: July 01, 2013

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, Since 1987, Rhode Island General Law 27-20-1 has defined “medical
2 services” as that term used in statutes governing health plans, including services rendered by
3 chiropractic physicians; and

4 WHEREAS, Rhode Island General Law 27-18-25 prohibits discrimination against
5 chiropractic physicians; and

6 WHEREAS, Rhode Island General Law 5-30-17 states that medical licensure statute
7 “apply to the practice of chiropractic medicine, and to persons practicing chiropractic medicine
8 within the state”; and

9 WHEREAS, Rhode Island General Law 5-30-11 states that chiropractic physicians “are
10 subject to the same duties and liabilities, and are entitled to the same rights and privileges in their
11 professional calling pertaining to public health, which are imposed or given by law or regulation
12 upon or to physicians qualified to practice medicine by section 5-37-2”; and

13 WHEREAS, Section 2706 of the Federal Affordable Care Act explicitly provides that
14 “[a] group health and health insurance issuer offering group or individual health insurance
15 coverage shall not discriminate with respect to participation under the plan or coverage against
16 and health care provider who is acting within the scope of that provider’s license or certification
17 under applicable state law”; and

18 WHEREAS, The General Assembly supports the Affordable Care Act in its goals of
19 reducing health care costs, improving the quality of care, and ensuring Americans have access to

1 affordable health insurance coverage; and

2 WHEREAS, The Affordable Care Act includes provisions against health plans imposing
3 caps on the number of visits and dollar amounts for services rendered by qualified health care
4 professionals; now, therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That this General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence
6 Plantations hereby affirms that chiropractic physicians are entitled to the same rights and
7 privileges as all other allopathic and osteopathic physicians, consistent with Rhode Island General
8 Law and Section 2706 of the Federal Affordable Care Act prohibiting discrimination against
9 chiropractic physicians; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
11 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the office of Health Insurance Commissioner,
12 the director of Department of Health, and Governor Lincoln Chafee.

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