

# CCA Colorado Legislative Wrap Up 2013

From CCA President R.M Masteller, DC, DABCO, DAAPM and YOUR CCA Legislative Team

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## **VICTORY for Chiropractic in NATIONAL HEALTH CARE in COLORADO:**

After countless letters, meetings, and emails from the CCA the Colorado Department of Insurance (DOI) has AGREED that excluding chiropractic services from plans offered on the new Colorado Health Exchange is discriminatory according to federal law. The DOI will be issuing a BULLETIN to all insurance carriers advising them of this. Insurance plans will be begin to be published on the exchange in October 2013 and will be effective in January 2014.

The highlights from the 2013 session include succeeding in having specific, consistent language in THREE different bills that prevents other health care providers from performing "spinal manipulation or adjustment." This language was added to the acupuncturist statute, the new Naturopathic Doctor licensing bill, and to the bill regulating unlicensed alternative health care providers. Our lobbyists also protected your rights to practice nutrition by preventing a DANGEROUS amendment to the unlicensed alternative care provider bill - thanks to Rep. Amy Stephens.

In another victory, doctors of chiropractic are now able to sign for temporary handicap parking permits. As you may remember, Governor Owens vetoed a bill many years ago that would have given DCs and other providers this ability. The CCA will be providing training on this. We believe this will be effective on January 1, 2014, but stay tuned for the exact details.

Senator John Kefalas was again a champion for the CCA in his fight to have intermediaries/third party administrators regulated by the Department of Insurance (DOI). When his initial bill was killed in committee, an amendment to another bill was added that will required carriers to submit a list of all intermediaries with whom they have a contractual relationship to the DOI annually.

Chiropractic physician status was again not successful. Rep. Dianne Primavera sponsored a bill for CCA, however, political and regulatory issues prevented the bill from going forward. The legislative team will continue to evaluate and study this issue and plan a strategy for next year.

### ***The following is a brief summary on CCA positions for bills in the Colorado House in 2013:***

- HB1111 – Naturopathic Licensing Bill – PASSED
- CCA added amendment to prevent NDs from doing spinal adjustment or manipulation. Only NDs from specific colleges may be licensed – others covered by SB215. CCA added amendment and Supported.
- HB 1192 – Labeling of genetically engineered foods – killed in committee. Jeff Prystupa, DC testified. CCA Neutral.
- HB 1223 – Requires carriers to report to DOI with a list of all intermediaries with whom the carrier has a contractual relationship. CCA added amendment and Supported. PASSED and SIGNED by Governor.

### ***The following is a brief summary of CCA's position on Senate Bills:***

- SB 58 Allows DCs to sign for Temporary Handicap Parking permits. CCA will be providing instructions. CCA proposed amendment. PASSED and SIGNED by Governor.
- SB 111 Elder and at-risk adult abuse reporting. CCA supported. PASSED
- SB 124 TPA/Intermediary Regulation Killed in Committee– see HB 1223 above.
- SB 172 Acupuncture Sunset – CCA added language to prevent spinal manipulation/adjustment. PASSED.
- SB 215 Allows naturopaths and others not licensed as NDs by HB1111 to continue to practice. CCA Neutral. PASSED.
- SB 204 Adds TWO more members (one DC/one public member) to CBCE bringing it to a SEVEN member board. PASSED.

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