



# State of North Carolina

**PAT McCRORY**

**GOVERNOR**

**CHIROPRACTIC MONTH**

**2015**

**BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

## **A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, Doctors of Chiropractic (DCs) are physician-level providers who focus on the whole person in their conservative approach to health care, and have particular expertise in the prevention, care and rehabilitation of neuromusculoskeletal injuries and conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, Doctors of Chiropractic are educated in nationally accredited, four-year doctoral graduate school programs through a curriculum that includes a minimum of 4,200 hours of classroom, laboratory and clinical internship, with the average DC program equivalent in classroom hours to allopathic and osteopathic medical schools; and

**WHEREAS**, Doctors of Chiropractic are recognized worldwide for their pain-relieving, health-enhancing and injury-prevention services; and

**WHEREAS**, according to a report from the Institute of Medicine (IOM) in 2011, an estimated 100 million Americans are affected by chronic pain, with an estimated annual cost of \$560-\$635 billion; it is estimated that \$50 billion is spent annually on health care and expenses related to back pain; and

**WHEREAS**, with an increase in chronic pain, there has been a simultaneous rise in opioid use, which has been associated with adverse outcomes (e.g. addiction, overdose, insufficient pain relief); the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has classified the overuse and abuse of prescription pain medications in the United States as “epidemic;” and

**WHEREAS**, prescription drugs that numb pain may convince a patient that a musculoskeletal condition is less severe than it is, or that it has healed; this misunderstanding can lead to over-exertion and a delay in the healing process or even to permanent injury; and

**WHEREAS**, National Chiropractic Health Month 2015 serves as a reminder to all North Carolinians that they can participate in #PainFreeNation, and highlights the important role Doctors of Chiropractic perform in the health care delivery system;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, PAT McCRORY, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 2015, as “**CHIROPRACTIC MONTH**” in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this ninth day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and fifteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fortieth.



  
PAT McCRORY  
Governor