



CHOICE

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**WISCONSIN STATE
ASSOCIATION SUES STATE'S
CHIROPRACTIC BOARD FOR
VIOLATION OF ETHICS RULE.
SEE PAGE 11.**

ICA Seeks Common Legislative Front In Washington, DC

ACA rejects invitation to participate

The American Chiropractic Association (ACA) has rejected an offer to participate in joint legislative talks with other chiropractic organizations aimed at establishing a meaningful common legislative front in Washington, D. C. The International Chiropractors Association (ICA) had extended an invitation to the ACA and the World Chiropractic Alliance (WCA) to participate with the ICA in a joint legislative committee session to seek common ground and attempt to develop cooperative efforts in the current and the coming congressional sessions.

ICA's invitation was promptly accepted by Dr. Terry Rondberg on behalf of the WCA; but ACA President Dr. Daryl D. Wills, in a letter dated June 24, 2002, declined ICA's invitation to participate at the joint meeting. Growing out of discussions through the National Chiropractic Leadership Forum sponsored by the Congress of Chiropractic State Associations (COCSA), ICA had responded to what was understood to be a profession-wide goal of legislative cooperation with a formal invitation to talk.

"It is most unfortunate that any organization would decline to participate in this urgently needed legislative effort, especially at a time when chiropractic is so heavily embattled and when key legislative opportunities might fail as a result," said ICA President Dr. D.D. Humber.

ICA believes that whatever any organization takes as its individual legislative direction, that it is in the best interests of both chiropractic practitioners and chiropractic patients to at least talk about the direction of these efforts, even if no agreement is initially reached. ICA is particularly concerned over the current situation in which Congress is considering major Medicare additions, especially a massively expensive prescription drug benefit. This debate provides an unique opportunity to seek added benefits for those Medicare beneficiaries who, by choice or by health circumstances cannot or will not be able to benefit from expanded drug benefits. With drug costs growing at such

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U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Names Chiropractic Advisory Committee

ICA Board Member Dr. Michael McLean on roster

After months of waiting, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) has finally named the members of the congressionally mandated Chiropractic Advisory Committee. Included in this roster is ICA Board Member and private practitioner Dr. Michael S. McLean of Virginia Beach, Virginia. Dr. McLean is also chair of ICA's Legislative Committee and has been active on the veterans' issue for many years.

The Chiropractic Advisory Committee was created by Congress and members selected by DVA Secretary Anthony Principi, to assist the agency in implementing the long overdue and much obstructed chiropractic benefits program. There are eleven members on the Committee, six of whom are doctors of chiropractic, and five representing other health professions or the DVA itself.

The other chiropractic representatives on the Committee are Charles E. Duvall, Jr., DC, president of the National Association of Chiropractic Medicine; Ronald C. Evans, DC, of Urbandale, Iowa; Leona Marie Fischer, DC, Inter-



Michael McLean, D.C.

national Board Member of the World Chiropractic Alliance and Cynthia S. Vaughn, DC, president of the Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners of Austin, Texas. Dr. Reed B. Phillips, President of Southern California University of Health Sciences (home to Los Angeles College of Chiropractic) of Whittier,

Calif., has been named the chairman by DVA Secretary Anthony Principi. Dr. Phillips served five years as a member of the Department of Defense (DoD) Chiropractic Health Care Demonstration Oversight Advisory Committee.

While it has been over six months since this legislation was signed into law, ICA is pleased to see that some action has finally been taken. Initial indications are that the Chiropractic Advisory Committee will have at least three meetings in the coming year, based on budget information the DVA has provided ICA.

"We are pleased to finally see some movement on this vital new chiropractic program," said ICA President Dr. D.D. Humber. "We continue to have concerns, however, over the delay in taking this first step of naming Chiropractic Advisory Committee members and what it might mean for the rest of

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Organized Medicine Seeks to Take Over Chiropractic in Italy

Chiropractic declared a 'medical act' to be practiced only by MDs

Chiropractors in Italy are fighting to keep chiropractic as a separate profession to be practiced only by chiropractors. But they are battling a formidable enemy — organized medicine. The national federation of medical doctors, surgeons and dentists, has declared that chiropractic is a "medical act" and therefore can only be practiced by Doctors of Medicine. The Federazione Nazionale Ordine dei Medici Chirurghi e Odontoiatri (FNOMCeO) has also called for a ban on the practice of chiropractic in Italy by doctors of chiropractic.

In a letter to ICA, Dr. Eddy Pellissier, president of the *Associazione Italiana Chiropratici* (AIC), has asked for the support of the chiropractic community

world-wide in their efforts to defend themselves against the powerful initiative by Italy's medical profession to take over and control chiropractic.

According to Dr. Pellissier, this declaration of chiropractic as a "medical act" was decided by majority vote at a recent convention of the Federation. In his letter to the ICA, Dr. Pellissier stated:

"The major implications of this action, besides setting a precedent that other European medical associations may follow and thus eventually strangling the chiropractic profession, are also having unqualified practitioners

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