the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 17. Sections 1 through 15 of this act shall constitute a new chapter in Title 70 RCW.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 18. This act shall take effect on January 1, 1980.

Passed the Senate April 24, 1979.
Passed the House April 12, 1979.
Approved by the Governor May 2, 1979.
Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 2, 1979.

CHAPTER 111
[Substitute Senate Bill No. 2422]
PHYSICIANS—CHIROPRACTORS—PROFESSIONAL DISCIPLINE


Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Section 1. Section 3, chapter 202, Laws of 1955 as last amended by section 1, chapter 61, Laws of 1975 and RCW 18.72.030 are each amended to read as follows:

The term "unprofessional conduct" as used in this chapter and chapter 18.71 RCW ((18.71.120 and 18.71.140)) shall mean the following items or any one or combination thereof:

(1) The commission of any act involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, or corruption, whether the same be committed in the course of his or her relations as a physician, or otherwise, and whether the same constitutes a crime or not; and if the act constitutes a crime, conviction thereof in a criminal proceeding shall not be a condition precedent to disciplinary action. Upon
such conviction, however, the judgment and sentence shall be conclusive ev-
idence at the ensuing disciplinary hearing of the guilt of the respondent
physician of the crime described in the indictment or information, and of his
or her violation of the statute upon which it is based;

(2) The procuring, or aiding or abetting in procuring a criminal
abortion;

(3) Misrepresentation or concealment of a material fact in the obtaining
of a license to practice medicine or in reinstatement thereof;

(4) All advertising of medical business which is intended or has a ten-
dency to deceive the public or impose upon credulous or ignorant persons
and so be harmful or injurious to public morals or safety;

(5) The impersonation of another licensed practitioner;

(6) ((Habitual intemperance;

(7)) The possession, use, prescription for use, or distribution of con-
trolled substances or legend drugs in any way other than for therapeutic
purposes;

(((Th))) (7) The offering, undertaking, or agreeing to cure or treat dis-
eease by a secret method, procedure, treatment, or medicine, or the treating,
operating, or prescribing for any human condition by a method, means, or
procedure which the licensee refuses to divulge upon demand of the board;

(((T))) (8) Unprofessional conduct as defined in chapter 19.68 RCW;

(((T))) (9) Aiding or abetting an unlicensed person to practice
medicine;

(((Th))) (10) Suspension or revocation of the physician’s license to
practice medicine by competent authority in any state, federal, or foreign
jurisdiction;

(((T2)) (11) Incompetency or negligence in the practice of med-
iceine and surgery resulting in serious harm to the patient;

(((T3))) (12) Violation of any board rule or regulation fixing a standard
of professional conduct;

(((T4))) (13) Wilful violation of RCW 18.72.175 or wilful disregard of
the subpoena or notice of the Washington state medical disciplinary board;

((or

(14) Gross, wilful, ((and)) or continued overcharging for profes-
sional services; or

(15) Failure to abide by the terms of corrective actions directed pursu-
ant to RCW 18.72.150(6).

Sec. 2. Section 6, chapter 202, Laws of 1955 and RCW 18.72.060 are
each amended to read as follows:

Nominations to the board may be made by petition signed by not less
than twenty-five license holders residing in the nominee’s district, and shall
be submitted to the board at least four weeks prior to the date of the elec-
tion. ((Votes cast for license holders not so nominated shall be valid:;))
Sec. 3. Section 10, chapter 202, Laws of 1955 as amended by section 42, chapter 34, Laws of 1975-'76 2nd ex. sess. and RCW 18.72.100 are each amended to read as follows:

Members of the board shall be paid ((twenty-five)) fifty dollars for each day spent in performing their duties as members of the board and shall be repaid their travel expenses while engaged in business of the board in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060 as now existing or hereafter amended. Such compensation and reimbursement for expenses shall be paid out of the general fund on vouchers approved by the director of ((licenses)) licensing.

Sec. 4. Section 13, chapter 202, Laws of 1955 and RCW 18.72.130 are each amended to read as follows:

The board shall elect from its members a ((chairman, vice-chairman)) chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary, who shall serve for one year and until their successors are elected and qualified. The board shall meet at least once a year or oftener upon the call of the ((chairman)) chairperson at such times and places as ((the chairman)) he/she shall designate. Five members shall constitute a quorum ((to transact)) of the full board for the transaction of any business. A majority of the members appointed to a panel shall constitute a quorum for a panel of the board to transact any business delegated to a panel by the board.

Sec. 5. Section 15, chapter 202, Laws of 1955 as amended by section 4, chapter 61, Laws of 1975 and RCW 18.72.150 are each amended to read as follows:

The board shall have the following powers and duties:

1. To adopt, amend and rescind such rules and regulations as it deems necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter;
2. To investigate all complaints ((and charges)) or reports of unprofessional conduct against any holder of a license and to hold hearings to determine ((whether the charges are substantiated or unsubstantiated)) if unprofessional conduct has been committed;
3. ((To employ necessary stenographic or clerical help;))
4. ((To take or cause depositions to be taken as needed in any investigation or investigative or disciplinary hearing))
5. To investigate complaints ((and charges)) or reports of malpractice and unsafe conditions and practices, to analyze equipment, procedures, and training, in such cases, and to direct corrective action;
6. To take emergency action ordering summary suspension of the license of a physician, or restricting or limiting the licensed physician's practice pending proceedings by the board, as authorized by RCW 34.04.170;
7. To appoint a hearing officer to conduct hearings subject to final determination by the board;
(8) To enter into contracts for professional services determined by the board to be necessary;
(9) To contract with physicians or other persons or organizations to provide services necessary for the monitoring and supervising of physicians and surgeons who are placed on probation, or whose professional activities are restricted, or who are for any authorized purpose subject to being monitored by the board; and
(10) The board shall be subject to the provisions of chapter 34.04 RCW.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. There is added to chapter 18.72 RCW a new section to read as follows:

The director of the department of licensing shall appoint, from a list of three names supplied by the board, an executive secretary who shall act to carry out the provisions of this chapter. The director shall also employ such additional staff including administrative assistants, investigators, and clerical staff as are required to enable the board to accomplish its duties and responsibilities. The executive secretary shall be exempt from the provisions of the civil service law, chapter 41.06 RCW, as now or hereafter amended.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. There is added to chapter 18.72 RCW a new section to read as follows:

(1) The board shall report the issuance of statements of charges and final actions in cases processed by the board to:
   (a) The person or agency who brought to the board's attention information which resulted in the initiation of the case;
   (b) Appropriate organizations, public or private, which serve the medical profession; and
   (c) The public.

(2) This section shall not be construed to require the reporting of any information which is exempt from public disclosure pursuant to chapter 42.17 RCW, as now or hereafter amended.

Sec. 8. Section 16, chapter 202, Laws of 1955 and RCW 18.72.160 are each amended to read as follows:

Any person, firm, corporation, or public officer may submit a written complaint to the board charging the holder of a license to practice medicine and surgery with unprofessional conduct and specifying the grounds therefor. If the board determines that such complaint merits consideration, or if the board shall have reason to believe, without a formal complaint, that any holder of a license has engaged in unprofessional conduct, the board shall investigate and determine whether there has been unprofessional conduct. If the board determines that there has been unprofessional conduct...
by the holder of a license, the board shall determine the appropriate sanc-
tion to be imposed to protect the health and well-being of the people of this
state and maintain the integrity of the medical profession.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. There is added to chapter 18.72 RCW a new
section to read as follows:

The director of licensing, upon request of the board, is authorized to
appoint members pro tem for the purpose of participating as members of
one or more panels of the board in connection with proceedings specifically
identified in the appointment. While serving as medical disciplinary mem-
bers pro tem, persons so appointed shall have all the authority, duties, and
immunities, and shall be entitled to the emoluments, including travel ex-
penses in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060, of regular mem-
ers of the board.

The chairperson of a panel shall be a regular member of the board.

Panels shall have authority to act as directed by the board with respect
to all matters concerning the review, investigation, and adjudication of all
complaints, allegations, charges, and matters subject to the jurisdiction of
the board. Final decisions of board panels shall be subject to appeal as
hereinafter provided. The authority to act through panels shall not restrict
the authority of the board to act as a single body at any phase of proceed-
ings within the board's jurisdiction.

Board panels shall have authority to make interim orders and to issue
final decisions with respect to matters and cases delegated to a panel by the
board. Final decisions may be appealed as provided in chapter 34.04 RCW.

Sec. 10. Section 17, chapter 202, Laws of 1955 and RCW 18.72.170 are
each amended to read as follows:

When ((a hearing committee is named, the secretary shall prepare a
specification of the charge or charges of unprofessional conduct made
against a license holder, a copy of which shall be served upon the accused;
together with a notice of the hearing, as provided in RCW 18.72.180)) the
board or a panel of the board determines to hear a charge of unprofessional
conduct against a license holder, it shall cause a statement of the charge or
charges to be prepared and served upon the license holder at the earliest
practical time.

Sec. 11. Section 23, chapter 202, Laws of 1955 and RCW 18.72.230 are
each amended to read as follows:

If a majority of the members of the board ((then sitting vote in favor of
finding the accused guilty of)) or an authorized panel determines that a li-
cense holder has committed unprofessional conduct as specified in ((the)) a
statement of charges, ((or any of them:)) the board or panel shall ((prepare
written)) make findings of facts, conclusions of law, and an order and may
thereafter prepare and file in the office of the director of ((licenses)) licens-
ing a certificate or order ((of revocation or suspension)), in which case a
copy thereof shall be served upon the accused, or the board may reprimand the accused, as it deems most appropriate). The order may provide for:

1. Revocation of license;
2. Suspension of license for a fixed or indefinite term;
3. Restriction or limitation upon the license holder’s practice;
4. The establishment of a requirement that the license holder complete a specific program of continuing medical education;
5. Monitoring of the license holder’s practice by a preceptor approved by the board;
6. Censure or reprimand;
7. Any combination of the foregoing, which may be partly or totally stayed; and
8. Compliance with conditions of probation for a designated period of time.

Sec. 12. Section 24, chapter 202, Laws of 1955 and RCW 18.72.240 are each amended to read as follows:

If the license holder is found not guilty, or if less than a majority of the members then sitting vote for a finding of guilty, the board shall forthwith order a dismissal of the charges and the exoneration of the accused. When a proceeding has been dismissed, either on the merits or otherwise, the board shall relieve the accused from any possible odium that may attach by reason of the charges made against him by such public exoneration as is necessary.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 13. There is added to chapter 18.72 RCW a new section to read as follows:

Any portion or all of the costs associated with a preceptor for the monitoring of the conditions of probation or the license holder’s compliance with the terms of the board’s decision and order may be assessed by the board against the license holder, in which event the payment of the said costs and expenses shall become a legal obligation of the license holder to the department of licensing, payment of which may be enforced in the superior or district courts.

Sec. 14. Section 25, chapter 202, Laws of 1955 as amended by section 1, chapter 58, Laws of 1969 and RCW 18.72.250 are each amended to read as follows:

The filing by the board in the office of the director of ((motor vehicles)) licensing of ((a certificate or order of revocation or suspension)) an order pursuant to proceedings authorized by this chapter, after due notice, hearing, and findings in accordance with ((the)) procedures specified in this chapter, certifying that any holder of a license has been found guilty of

[ 1327 ]
unprofessional conduct by the board, shall constitute a revocation or sus-
pension of the license to practice medicine and surgery in this state in ac-
cordance with the terms and conditions imposed by the board and embodied
in the certificate or order of revocation or suspension) and chapter 34.04
RCW, or an order of summary suspension entered as authorized by this
chapter, shall take effect immediately upon its filing. Such ((certificat-or))
order ((of revocation or suspension)), if appealed, ((may)) shall not be
stayed ((by)) pending the appeal unless the board or ((by)) the ((review-
ing)) court ((upon such terms as is deemed proper)) to which the appeal is
taken enters an order staying the order of the board, which stay may pro-
vide for terms necessary to protect the public.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 15. There is added to chapter 18.72 RCW a new
section to read as follows:

(1) The board may adopt regulations requiring any person, including,
but not limited to, corporations, hospitals, organizations, and federal, state,
or local governmental agencies, to report to the board any: Conviction, de-
termination, or finding that a licensed physician has committed unprofes-
sional conduct as defined by RCW 18.72.030 as now or hereafter amended,
or to report information which indicates that a licensed physician may not
be able to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients as
the result of any mental or physical condition.

(2) The contents of any report file shall be confidential and exempt from
public disclosure pursuant to chapter 42.17 RCW, except that it may be
reviewed (a) by the licensee involved or his counsel or authorized representa-
tive who may submit any additional exculpatory or explanatory state-
ments or other information, which statements or other information shall be
included in the file, or (b) by a representative of the medical disciplinary
board, or investigator thereof, who has been assigned to review the activities
of a licensed physician.

(3) Upon a determination that a report is without merit, the board's re-
cords may be purged of information relating to the report.

(4) If any person contumaciously refuses to furnish a required report,
the board may petition the superior court of any county in which said per-
son resides or is found, and said court shall issue to such person an order to
furnish the required report. Any failure to obey such order shall be pun-
ished by the court as a civil contempt may be punished.

(5) Every individual, medical association, medical society, hospital,
medical service bureau, health insurance carrier or agent, professional lia-
bility insurance carrier, professional standards review organization, and
agency of the federal, state, or local government shall be immune from civil
liability, whether direct or derivative, for providing information to the board
subsequent to the regulations outlined in [sub]section (1) of this section, or
for which an individual health care provider has immunity under the provisions of RCW 4.24.240, 4.24.250, or 4.24.260, as now or hereafter amended.

Sec. 16. Section 3, chapter 61, Laws of 1975 and RCW 18.72.275 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) In the event that a physician is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be mentally incompetent or mentally ill, such physician shall automatically have his or her license suspended by the board upon the entry of such judgment, regardless of the pendency of an appeal.

(2) If it appears to the board that there is reasonable cause to believe that a physician who has not been judicially determined to be mentally incompetent or mentally ill is unable to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of illness, drunkenness, excessive use of drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or any other type of material or as a result of any mental or physical condition, a complaint in the name of the board shall be served upon such physician and notice shall be given the physician that a hearing will be held on the sole issue of the capacity of the physician to adequately conduct his or her practice. If the board determines that the physician is unable to adequately conduct his or her practice for one of the reasons stated in this subsection, the board shall suspend or restrict the license of such physician, or impose such conditions on the conduct of the physician's practice as the board finds to be appropriate for the protection of the public.

(3) In enforcing this section, the board shall, upon probable cause, have authority to compel a physician to submit to a mental or physical examination by one or more physicians and/or a psychological evaluation by one or more licensed psychologists designated by the board. In addition to any examinations ordered by the board, the subject physician may submit psychiatric, physical, or psychological examination reports from physicians or psychologists of the physician's choosing and expense. Failure of a physician to submit to examination when directed constitutes grounds for immediate suspension of such physician's license, unless the failure was due to circumstances beyond his or her control, consequent upon which a default and final order may be entered without the taking of testimony or presentation of evidence. A physician affected under this section shall at reasonable intervals be afforded an opportunity to demonstrate that he or she can resume the competent practice of medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients.

(4) For the purpose of this section, every physician licensed under this chapter who shall accept the privilege to practice medicine in this state shall by so practicing or by the making and filing of annual registration to practice medicine in this state, be deemed to have given his or her consent to submit to a mental or physical examination when directed.
in writing by the board and further to have waived all objections to the ad- 
missibility of the examining physicians' testimony or examination reports on 
the ground that the same constitute ((a)) privileged communications.

(5) In any proceeding under this ((subsection-(2))) section, neither the 
record of proceedings nor the orders entered by the board shall be used 
against a physician in any other proceeding.

Sec. 17. Section 3, chapter 171, Laws of 1967 as last amended by sec-
tion 1, chapter 39, Laws of 1975 1st ex. sess. and RCW 18.26.030 are each 
amended to read as follows:

The term "unprofessional conduct" as used in this chapter and chapter 
18.25 RCW shall mean the following items or any one or combination 
thereof:

(1) Conviction in any court of any offense involving moral turpitude, in 
which case the record of such conviction shall be conclusive evidence;

(2) Fraud or deceit in the obtaining of a license to practice chiropractic;

(3) ((All)) A violation of any rule or regulation pertaining to advertising 
of chiropractic practice or business((,other than professional cards, tele-
phone listings, window and street signs, announcements of office openings or 
change in locations, as regulated by the board. PROVIDED, That nothing 
in this section shall prohibit public relations material which is distributed in 
a licensee's office or directly to a bona fide patient of a licensee: PROVID-
ED FURTHER, That any such public relations material does not have a 
tendency to deceive the public or impose upon credulous or ignorant persons 
and so be harmful or injurious to public morals or safety)) promulgated by 
the board;

(4) The impersonation of another licensed practitioner;

(5) Habitual intemperance;

(6) The wilful betrayal of a professional secret;

(7) Acts of gross misconduct in the practice of the profession;

(8) Aiding or abetting an unlicensed person to practice chiropractic;

(9) A declaration of mental incompetency by a court of competent 
jurisdiction;

(10) Failing to differentiate chiropractic care from any and all other 
methods of healing at all times;

(11) Practicing contrary to laws regulating the practice of chiropractic;

(12) Unprofessional conduct as defined in chapter 19.68 RCW;

(13) Violation of any ethical standard as established by the board;

(14) Suspension or revocation of license to practice chiropractic by 
competent authority in any state or foreign jurisdiction;

(15) Incompetency to practice chiropractic by reason of illness, drunk-
erness, excessive use of controlled substances, chemicals, or any other type 
of material or as a result of any mental or physical condition.

Proceedings involving alleged unprofessional conduct shall be conducted 
by the attorney general upon the direction of the board.
Sec. 18. Section 4, chapter 171, Laws of 1967 as amended by section 13, chapter 97, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 18.26.040 are each amended to read as follows:

There is hereby created the Washington state chiropractic disciplinary board of seven members to be composed of (three) six chiropractic members to be (named by the Washington Chiropractors Association, Incorporated and three members to be named by the Chiropractic Society of Washington and one additional member who shall be the director of the department of motor vehicles or his designee from the department of motor vehicles)) appointed by the governor, and one member appointed by the governor who shall be representative of the public at large. Initial members shall be named within thirty days after the effective date of this (chapter) 1979 act, whose names and addresses shall be promptly sent to the director of (motor vehicles) licensing, and such board shall meet and organize at a time and place to be determined by the director of (motor vehicles) licensing within sixty days after the effective date of this (chapter) 1979 act and after written notice to the named members of such date and place.

The director of (motor vehicles or his) licensing or the designee shall designate the terms of the initial members of the disciplinary board. For terms beginning (January 1, 1975, one initial member from each of the two groups, the Washington Chiropractors Association, Incorporated, and the Chiropractic Society of Washington, shall be designated for a one-year term, one member from each group shall be designated for a two-year term, and one member from each group)) on the effective date of this 1979 act, three members shall be designated for three-year terms; two members shall be designated for four-year terms; and two members shall be designated for ((a three-year)) five-year terms.

(Thereafter, each of said groups shall, annually, designate the members of the board who shall succeed to said position upon the expiration of said initial term. Such)) Subsequent designations shall be for a term of ((three)) five years(, except the director or his designee from the department of motor vehicles)).

Sec. 19. Section 21, chapter 171, Laws of 1967 and RCW 18.26.210 are each amended to read as follows:

The filing by the board in the office of the director of (motor vehicles) licensing of a certificate or order of revocation or suspension after due notice, hearing and findings in accordance with the procedure specified in this chapter, certifying that any holder of a license has been found guilty of unprofessional conduct by the board, shall constitute a revocation or suspension of the license to practice chiropractic in this state in accordance with the terms and conditions imposed by the board and embodied in the certificate or order of revocation or suspension: PROVIDED, That if the licensee seeks judicial review of the board's decision pursuant to the provisions of
this chapter, such revocation or the period of such suspension shall not be stayed (and shall not be effective or commence to run until final judgment has been entered in any proceeding instituted under the provisions of this chapter and the licensee's judicial remedies are exhausted hereunder) unless the court to which the appeal is taken enters an order staying the order of the board.

Sec. 20. Section 7, chapter 171, Laws of 1967 as last amended by section 33, chapter 34, Laws of 1975-'76 2nd ex. sess. and RCW 18.26.070 are each amended to read as follows:

Members of the board may be paid thirty-five dollars for each day spent in performing their duties as members of the board and may be paid their travel expenses while engaged in the business of the board in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060 as now existing or hereafter amended, with such reimbursement to be paid out of the general fund on vouchers ((approved by the budget director and)) signed by the director of ((motor vehicles)) licensing.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 21. If any provision of this 1979 act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 22. The following acts or parts of acts are each repealed:

(1) Section 20, chapter 202, Laws of 1955 and RCW 18.72.200;
(2) Section 21, chapter 202, Laws of 1955 and RCW 18.72.210;
(3) Section 22, chapter 202, Laws of 1955 and RCW 18.72.220; and
(4) Section 31, chapter 202, Laws of 1955 and RCW 18.72.310.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 23. This 1979 act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the Senate March 21, 1979.
Passed the House April 23, 1979.
Approved by the Governor May 2, 1979.
Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 2, 1979.

CHAPTER 112
[Substitute House Bill No. 156]
FISCAL NOTES—LEGISLATION—LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT
AN ACT Relating to the fiscal impact of legislation; amending section 3, chapter 25, Laws of 1977 ex. sess. and RCW 43.88A.030; and adding a new section to chapter 43.132 RCW.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington: