



CALIFORNIA CHIROPRACTIC ASSOCIATION

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**CHIROPRACTORS & PATIENTS PROTEST WORKERS'
COMPENSATION CAP PROPOSAL AT STATE CAPITOL**

Bad Legislation Would Force Injured Workers to Live in Pain

SACRAMENTO, CA – Over one thousand doctors of chiropractic and their patients held a protest rally today at the State Capitol opposing a 15-visit cap on chiropractic care for injured workers. Chiropractors and patients, including police and firefighters, outlined the negative effects the proposed 15-visit limit on chiropractic care would have under workers' compensation. "Capping chiropractic care will not straighten out the problems our workers' compensation system faces," said Dr. Douglas S. Wilson, president of the California Chiropractic Association (CCA). "Chiropractic care is just five percent of the total costs in workers' compensation. It is impossible that we can be responsible for the 300-plus percent increase in premiums that employers are experiencing."

The protest rally took place as a conference committee representing the state Senate and Assembly met inside the Capitol to consider workers' compensation-related legislation. Injured police and firefighters noted that they depend upon chiropractic care to keep them on the job after work-related injuries. "Police officers and firefighters, and members of many other occupations, are prohibited from taking pain medication because of their job to protect public safety," Dr. Wilson told a news conference prior to the rally. "Capping chiropractic care sentences them to either leave their jobs, or to live in pain. Treatment decisions should be left to doctors, not the Legislature."

The chiropractors and their patients protested proposed legislation because:

****It would limit chiropractic care *even if it is effective*;**

****Injured workers who are unable to take medication and are not surgical candidates will have no care option without chiropractic treatment;**

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****Caps will increase costs by forcing injured workers into more expensive, dangerous and less effective treatments – including medications and unnecessary surgery;**

****Caps would increase workers' compensation disability costs as patients are cut off before they have had a chance to respond to the treatment.**

Dr. Wilson told the rally that, “Workers on the job are entitled to the care that they need to cure or relieve the effects of an industrial injury. The proposed cap would prevent injured workers from receiving the care they need.”

Founded in 1928, the California Chiropractic Association (CCA) is a statewide, non-profit professional organization of doctors of chiropractic throughout California. The purpose of the CCA is to enhance the general welfare, professionalism and unity of chiropractic in the state of California so as to provide its citizens with both high quality and freedom of choice in health care.

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