From: Angie Kociolek
To: Murdo, Patricia
Subject: [EXTERNAL] public comment for EAIC Chiro Dry Needling Rule agenda item
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 6:31:21 PM

June 29, 2020

Dear Economic Affairs Interim Committee,

It's a testament to the effectiveness of acupuncture as a healing art that other healthcare professionals are motivated to help people by utilizing the tools and methods of the Licensed Acupuncturist. However, it is my opinion that anyone in Montana seeking to insert solid needles into people should obtain a license through the Board of Medical Examiners, the sole agency charged with regulating the practice of acupuncture in the state. Nothing precludes a healthcare professional from holding two or more licenses regulated by different boards.

Unfortunately, your predecessors in the EAIC essentially allowed the Physical Therapy Board to change the rules of the game without even a slap on the wrist after they were found to be practicing what would be construed as acupuncture without a license. Now, here we are again with a different board trying to do the same thing and essentially render other practices laws as irrelevant.

The fact that chiropractors in Montana are regulated by a board comprised only of chiropractic professionals (save one public member) is disturbing to me given that those who regulate stand to gain financially from dry needling/the new rule. This is a conflict of interest, in my opinion.

The Board of Medical Examiners, in contrast, is diverse and requires at least seven different professional licenses on the board. Perhaps it is time to revisit how chiropractors are regulated in the State of Montana. The same can be said of other Boards (e.g. Board of Physical Therapy Examiners) that are populated by the very people who stand to gain financially from its decisions.

This new rule for dry needling is tantamount to an expansion of scope and one that should be done through the proper legislative channels and only after sufficient training is required, tested and regulated, if at all.

Sincerely,

Angela Kociolek, L.Ac.

On Jun 29, 2020, at 5:45 PM, Murdo, Patricia <PMURDO@mt.gov> wrote:

Thanks!

From: Angie Kociolek <angie@rootstockacupuncture.com>
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 5:45 PM
To: Murdo, Patricia <PMURDO@mt.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] instructions for participation

I'll just send in my comment.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 29, 2020, at 4:38 PM, Murdo, Patricia <PMURDO@mt.gov> wrote:

It is all flexible and depends on who is calling in and how long they take. The Rules section starts at 3:45, but could start earlier. You can listen in from the Internet at https://leg.mt.gov/ click on the sideways carrot next to Economic Affairs. Sorry, but there is not strict and fast time frame. - pat

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From: Angie Kociolek <angie@rootstockacupuncture.com>
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 4:29 PM
To: Murdo, Patricia <PMURDO@mt.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] instructions for participation

I meant between what hours of the day tonorrow will I be able to speak?

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 29, 2020, at 2:13 PM, Murdo, Patricia <PMURDO@mt.gov> wrote:

They lose attention after a few minutes (3 Minutes?) - pat

From: Angie Kociolek <angie@rootstockacupuncture.com>
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 11:32 AM
To: Murdo, Patricia <PMURDO@mt.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] instructions for participation

what would be the time frame if I comment by phone?

> On Jun 29, 2020, at 8:48 AM, Murdo, Patricia <PMURDO@mt.gov> wrote:
>
> I didn't hear back from you. Are you planning on public comment? I responded that you had 3 choices: in writing, in person or by telephone. I need to know in advance if it is by telephone. Thank you. - pat
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Angie Kociolek <angie@rootstockacupuncture.com>
> **Sent:** Wednesday, June 24, 2020 9:54 PM
> **To:** Murdo, Patricia <PMURDO@mt.gov>
> **Subject:** [EXTERNAL] instructions for participation
>
> Hi Pat,
>
> I understand I need to coordinate with you in order to make a public comment at the June 30 EAIC meeting regarding the Chiropractic Dry Needling Rule. Please advise.
>
> Thanks,
> Angie

<image001.png>

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