

1.1 **Board of Chiropractic Examiners**

1.2 **Proposed Rules Relating to Chiropractic Services to Animals**

1.3 **2500.7000 DEFINITIONS.**

1.4 Subpart 1. **Scope.** The terms defined in parts 2500.7000 to 2500.7090 have the
1.5 meanings given in this part.

1.6 Subp. 2. **Animal chiropractor.** "Animal chiropractor" means a doctor of
1.7 chiropractic who is licensed under Minnesota Statutes, sections 148.01 to 148.108, and
1.8 who is registered under parts 2500.7010 to 2500.7080 to perform services on animals.

1.9 Subp. 3. **Animal rehabilitative therapy.** "Animal rehabilitative therapy" means
1.10 any therapy applied for the purposes of preparing for or complementing the chiropractic
1.11 adjustment to animals. These therapies may include mobilization, light therapy,
1.12 therapeutic ultrasound, thermotherapy, ice application, hydrotherapy such as whirlpool
1.13 or water tanks, exercise therapy, meridian therapy that does not result in puncture
1.14 or interruption of the integument, vibratory therapy, traction that does not require
1.15 instrumentation or mechanical devices, stretching, trigger point therapy, and massage.
1.16 Animal rehabilitative therapy does not include the use of forces associated with low
1.17 voltage stimulation, high voltage stimulation, ultraviolet light, or diathermy.

1.18 Subp. 4. **Board.** "Board" means the Minnesota Board of Chiropractic Examiners.

1.19 Subp. 5. **Owner.** "Owner" means the actual owner of the animal or any person
1.20 having responsibility for and control of the animal.

1.21 Subp. 6. **Patient.** "Patient" means an animal or nonhuman client treated under
1.22 parts 2500.7010 to 2500.7090.

1.23 Subp. 7. **Veterinarian.** "Veterinarian" means a doctor of veterinary medicine, who
1.24 is licensed under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 156, or the veterinary practice act of any
1.25 other state or jurisdiction.

2.1 **2500.7010 REGISTRATION.**

2.2 A. No person may provide services to any animal without first being registered
2.3 by the board.

2.4 B. Initial registration shall require:

2.5 (1) completion of an application established by the board;

2.6 (2) transcripts received directly from an institution approved by the board,
2.7 which provides training in animal chiropractic according to Minnesota Statutes, sections
2.8 148.01 and 148.032, and which indicates successful completion of the program; and

2.9 (3) a fee set by the legislature.

2.10 C. Registration renewals shall require:

2.11 (1) completion of a renewal application established by the board;

2.12 (2) completion of the renewal of the doctor of chiropractic license;

2.13 (3) verification of compliance with six continuing education credits under
2.14 part 2500.7040 in addition to those credits required for the renewal of the doctor of
2.15 chiropractic license; and

2.16 (4) a fee set by the legislature.

2.17 **2500.7020 DOCUMENTATION OF REFERRAL.**

2.18 A. Referrals from doctors of veterinary medicine must be maintained in the
2.19 animal's record. Written documentation in the form of letters, handwritten notes, e-mails,
2.20 or other forms shall be considered acceptable. Verbal referrals such as direct consultation
2.21 or phone referrals must be documented in the animal's record by the chiropractor. All
2.22 referrals shall contain, at a minimum:

2.23 (1) date of referral;

3.1 (2) name, practice address, and practice phone number of the veterinarian;
3.2 and

3.3 (3) any special considerations conveyed by the veterinarian including
3.4 contraindications or other health-related matters that may impact the care by the
3.5 chiropractor.

3.6 B. The animal chiropractor is authorized to convey clinical information
3.7 regarding treatment of the animal to the referring veterinarian, unless specifically
3.8 prohibited from doing so by the patient's owner or an authorized agent.

3.9 **2500.7030 PATIENT RECORD.**

3.10 Subpart 1. **Ownership of records.** All records, including radiographic reports that
3.11 are created subject to parts 2500.7000 to 2500.7090, must be maintained for a minimum
3.12 of three years following the last clinical encounter.

3.13 A. The written animal chiropractic records shall remain the sole possession of
3.14 the facility or proprietor of the facility in which animal chiropractic care was delivered.

3.15 B. Copies of animal chiropractic records must be provided to the animal's
3.16 owner, the owner's designated agent, other health care provider, or to the board within two
3.17 weeks of a written and signed request. A reasonable charge for copying may be made,
3.18 except in the case of a board investigation, in which case no charges shall be authorized. A
3.19 reasonable charge shall be defined as those charges consistent with the charges applicable
3.20 to human patients, and governed by Minnesota Statutes, section 144.292.

3.21 Subp. 2. **Content of records.** Patient records must contain sufficient information to
3.22 justify and describe the course of care. The records shall contain, at a minimum:

3.23 A. name, address, and telephone number of owner;

3.24 B. identity of the animals, including name, age, sex, and breed;

3.25 C. dates of consultations, examinations, or treatments;

- 4.1 D. brief history of the condition of each animal treated;
- 4.2 E. examination findings including designation of subluxations;
- 4.3 F. written findings for any diagnostic imaging which may have been conducted
- 4.4 specifically for the purposes of rendering animal chiropractic care;
- 4.5 G. working chiropractic diagnosis;
- 4.6 H. treatment plan including expected duration and frequency; and
- 4.7 I. daily treatments, including areas adjusted or otherwise treated.

4.8 **2500.7040 CONTINUING EDUCATION.**

4.9 Animal chiropractors must take at least six hours of continuing education in animal

4.10 chiropractic-related subjects each year in which they maintain a registration.

4.11 A. Any hours taken that are designated for the purpose of fulfilling the

4.12 requirement in this part shall be entirely separate from the 20-hour annual requirement in

4.13 part 2500.1200, and shall not be applied to other subject matter requirements as part of the

4.14 chiropractor's annual 20-hour requirement.

4.15 B. Only courses designed to enhance the academic knowledge or clinical skills

4.16 of the animal chiropractor shall be approved. Courses shall be approved according to

4.17 parts 2500.1200 to 2500.2000.

4.18 **2500.7050 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES.**

4.19 The board may, in its sole discretion, utilize any representative from the Minnesota

4.20 Board of Veterinary Medicine (MBVM) to assist the board in complaint resolution. The

4.21 representative may include, but not be limited to, the MBVM's executive director, staff,

4.22 board members, or a consultant.

4.23 A. The board and the MBVM may work out any reasonable procedures to

4.24 establish a cooperative relationship for the purposes of facilitating complaint resolution

5.1 against animal chiropractors. The procedures shall be in writing, and shall be provided to
5.2 the recipient of a complaint upon initial notification of the existence of the complaint.

5.3 B. Any of the acts in Minnesota Statutes, section 148.10, that may reasonably
5.4 be applied to animal patients are considered unprofessional conduct and constitute
5.5 grounds for disciplinary action. The acts in subitems (1) to (8) shall also be considered
5.6 unprofessional conduct and constitute grounds for disciplinary action under Minnesota
5.7 Statutes, section 148.10:

5.8 (1) asserting or implying in a public manner material claims of professional
5.9 superiority in the practice of animal chiropractic that cannot be substantiated;

5.10 (2) practicing animal chiropractic under an expired, terminated, suspended,
5.11 or revoked chiropractic license or animal chiropractic registration;

5.12 (3) promoting, aiding, abetting, or permitting the practice of veterinary
5.13 medicine or animal chiropractic by an unlicensed or unregistered person, except as
5.14 otherwise permitted by Minnesota Statutes, section 156.12, subdivision 2;

5.15 (4) prescribing, ordering, suggesting, dispensing, administering, delivering,
5.16 using, misusing, or in any other manner making available to an owner or any other person,
5.17 any controlled drug listed in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 152, or the federal Controlled
5.18 Substances Act;

5.19 (5) performing surgery;

5.20 (6) refusing the board or its designated agent, at reasonable hours, the right
5.21 to inspect a facility in which animal chiropractic is performed, pursuant to an investigation
5.22 by or on behalf of the board;

5.23 (7) failing to report to law enforcement or humane officers inhumane
5.24 treatment of animals, including staged animal fights or training for fights, of which the

6.1 animal chiropractor has direct knowledge or has information or belief that such activity
6.2 has occurred; and

6.3 (8) failure to report to the board any action taken in another jurisdiction
6.4 against the veterinarian's authorization to practice chiropractic care on animals. If the
6.5 registrant is also a licensed veterinarian in this and any other jurisdiction, the registrant is
6.6 required to report any action against the registrant's license in the other jurisdiction.

6.7 **2500.7060 INACTIVE ANIMAL CHIROPRACTIC REGISTRATION.**

6.8 A Minnesota licensed chiropractor who has converted a Minnesota license to inactive
6.9 status may apply to the board for an inactive animal chiropractic registration. An inactive
6.10 animal chiropractic registration is intended for those chiropractors who will be in active
6.11 chiropractic practice elsewhere. Upon approval of an application, the board will modify
6.12 the annual animal chiropractic registration certificate to indicate inactive registration.

6.13 **2500.7070 ANNUAL RENEWAL OF INACTIVE ANIMAL CHIROPRACTIC**
6.14 **REGISTRATION.**

6.15 A registrant must complete an annual renewal application and submit the annual
6.16 renewal fee for an inactive animal chiropractic registration as authorized under Minnesota
6.17 Statutes, section 148.108.

6.18 **2500.7080 REINSTATEMENT OF INACTIVE ANIMAL CHIROPRACTIC**
6.19 **REGISTRATION.**

6.20 An inactive animal chiropractic registration may be reinstated to an active animal
6.21 chiropractic registration according to items A to C:

6.22 A. completion of a board-approved application of reinstatement;

6.23 B. payment of a reinstatement fee as authorized under Minnesota Statutes,
6.24 section 148.108; and

7.1 C. submission of a notarized statement from the doctor stating that the registrant
7.2 has completed six hours of continuing education credits in animal chiropractic-related
7.3 subjects as approved by the board for each year the registration was inactive.

7.4 **2500.7090 DENIAL.**

7.5 If any of the requirements of part 2500.7080 are not met by the doctor, the board shall
7.6 deny approval of the application for reinstatement.