



## Assembly Bill 260 and Pre-Participation Examinations

### Background

- Introduced by Representative Chuck Wichgers, Assembly Bill 260 expands chiropractic scope of practice by allowing chiropractors to perform pre-participation physical examinations (PPE) on adolescent student athletes.
- The bill also requires school athletic programs to accept PPEs performed by chiropractors just as they accept PPEs performed by licensed physicians.

### Issue

- A PPE is a comprehensive medical examination, which includes evaluations for cardiovascular conditions, appropriate immunizations, growth and development, mental and behavioral health, laboratory tests, and hearing and vision screening. **PPEs are frequently a child's only encounter with a physician**
- PPEs screen for many life-threatening conditions. A complete history and physical exam is best performed by a physician trained in comprehensive medical care.
- Capturing the details of this annual physician conducted examination ensures full recording of the encounter in the patient's detailed electronic medical record. This allows the physician to have access to the patient's record, which leaves less risk for missed or omitted medical information.

### Concern

- **Chiropractors are not trained to evaluate cardiovascular health, pulmonary health, genital health, ear, nose and throat health, or cognitive function.** Medical education and training standards are in place for a reason, and when it comes to the health and welfare of patients, especially children, those standards cannot be compromised.
- According to the bill, to perform a PPE, chiropractors need to complete **unspecified education** requirements and pay the Chiropractic Examining Board a one-time fee of \$25.
- Physicians spend countless hours learning normal and abnormal human physiology, pharmacology, physical exam skills, and approaches to diagnosis and treatment. In contrast, Chiropractic education is focused on basic sciences and spinal manipulation.

### Physicians vs. Chiropractors, Education and Training

Requirements	Physicians	Chiropractics
<b>Undergraduate</b>	College Degree	90 Credit Hours
<b>Post-Grad Education</b>	4 Years of Medical School	4 Years of Chiropractic School
<b>Residency/Fellowship</b>	3 to 7 Years of Training	No Requirements
<b>Training Time</b>	10,000 Hours in Clinical Patient Care	4,200 Combined Instructional Hours in the Classroom, Laboratory and Clinic



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Brown County  
Medical Society



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THE AMERICAN CONGRESS  
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Wisconsin  
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AND ONCOLOGY



WAUKESHA COUNTY  
MEDICAL SOCIETY



School of Medicine  
and Public Health  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



WRS Wisconsin  
Radiological  
Society



Wisconsin Medical Society

## Organizations That Oppose Assembly Bill 260

Alliance of Health Insurers  
 American Family Children's Hospital  
 American Medical Society for Sports Medicine  
 Children's Hospital of Wisconsin  
 Marshfield Clinic Health System  
 Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers  
 UW Health  
 Wisconsin Academy of Family Physicians  
 Wisconsin Academy of Physician Assistants  
 American Academy of Pediatrics, Wisconsin Chapter  
 Wisconsin Athletic Trainers' Association  
 Wisconsin Council on Child and Adolescent Psychiatry  
 Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association  
 Wisconsin Neurological Society  
 Wisconsin Medical Society  
 Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association  
 Wisconsin Psychiatric Association

**Request for Legislators:** Do not jeopardize the health and safety of Wisconsin's student athletes! **Please join 17 medical organizations and specialty associations in opposing Assembly Bill 260.** If chiropractors want to be able to competently perform PPEs, they need to meet the same standards as licensed physicians. Given their lack of expertise, it is irresponsible to allow chiropractors to perform PPEs.



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