

ORIGINAL

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

June 24, 2002

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIONS TO SENATE BILL NO. 233

Honorable Members
Twenty-First Legislature
State of Hawaii

Pursuant to Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, I am returning herewith, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 233, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to Chiropractic."

The purpose of this bill is to limit reimbursement for workers' compensation chiropractic treatment, to expand the general scope of chiropractic practice, and to clarify what constitutes the practice of chiropractic, as well as the violations and the penalties. Senate Bill No. 233 redefines the scope of chiropractic practice to include "the science of palpating and adjusting the articulations *and adjacent tissues*" to all parts of the human body connected to the spinal cord *including the abdomen*.

This new definition, without further clarification, may lead patients to conclude that chiropractors are able to diagnose and treat almost all parts of the human body *without restrictions*. This authorization would be contrary to the standards of chiropractors' training and education and may jeopardize or endanger patients' health.

The expansion of the scope of chiropractic practice also may lead to increases in medical malpractice liability insurance costs, medical costs, health insurance costs, and personal and commercial automobile insurance costs. Before the


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scope of chiropractic practice is broadened, a detailed economic analysis should be done to determine the bill's potential cost impacts.

This bill also limits chiropractic reimbursement for treatment in workers' compensation matters. There does not appear to be any articulated rationale for the discriminatory reimbursement treatment of workers' compensation insurance versus other types of insurance. Any future efforts to extend workers' compensation reimbursements in relation to the expanded scope of chiropractic practice in section 2 of the bill would result in an increase in workers' compensation insurance and would eliminate the advances made by the Legislature in the past few years in controlling workers' compensation insurance costs.

For the foregoing reasons, I am returning Senate Bill No. 233 without my approval.

Respectfully,


BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO
Governor of Hawaii

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P R O C L A M A T I O N

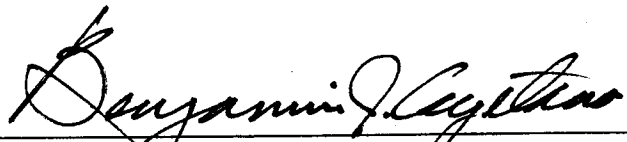
WHEREAS, under Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, the Governor is required to give notice, by a proclamation, of the Governor's plan to return with the Governor's objections any bill presented to the Governor less than ten days before adjournment sine die or presented to the Governor after adjournment sine die of the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 233, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to Chiropractic," passed by the Legislature, was presented to the Governor within the aforementioned period; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 233 is unacceptable to the Governor of the State of Hawaii;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO, Governor of the State of Hawaii, do hereby issue this proclamation, pursuant to the provisions of Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, giving notice of my plan to return Senate Bill No. 233 with my objections thereon to the Legislature as provided by said Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution.

DONE at the State Capitol, Honolulu,
State of Hawaii, this 24th day
of June, 2002.


BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO
Governor of Hawaii