



GEORGIA COUNCIL OF CHIROPRACTIC

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHIROPRACTORS ARE ESSENTIAL CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROVIDERS UNDER GOVERNOR KEMP'S STATE WIDE SHELTER IN PLACE ORDER

Marietta, Georgia, April 2, 2020– Georgia Council of Chiropractic (GCC) has been closely monitoring developments regarding the Coronavirus pandemic for the last several weeks, particularly as it relates to chiropractors and the service they provide to their communities in the state of Georgia. Yesterday, April 1, 2020, Georgia Governor, Brian Kemp, held a press conference during which he announced his intention to sign new executive orders enacting a state wide shelter in place order and restricting certain business operations. This afternoon the Governor did sign such order which becomes effective on Friday, April 3 at 6:00pm and ends at 11:59pm on Monday, April 13, 2020.

[The Governor's order](#) requires all persons in the state to practice social distancing and sanitation procedures according to the CDC guidelines, and to 'shelter in place' with only essential travel permitted to seek essential services and/or to and from work in a critical infrastructure business. The order specifically states, *"the term "Critical Infrastructure" shall refer to businesses...as defined by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security as "essential critical infrastructure workforce," in guidance dated March 19, 2020, and revised on March 28, 2020, and those suppliers which provide essential goods and services to the critical infrastructure workforce..."*

According to The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) within the Department of Homeland Security, in the [March 28, 2020 memorandum](#), referenced in the Governor's order, identifying 'Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers During COVID-19 Response, *"Functioning critical infrastructure is imperative during the response to the COVID-19 emergency for both public health and safety as well as community well-being."*CISA developed a list of "Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers," which include "healthcare providers." Healthcare/Public Health workers as defined specifically in the CISA document include Chiropractors as Essential Critical Workers.

The service chiropractors provide at this time may best be described by Matthew McCoy, DC, MPH, CEO of ChiroFutures Malpractice Insurance Program, *"As portal-of-entry healthcare providers, doctors of chiropractic are educated and licensed to diagnose and care for patients. Doctors of chiropractic work in private practices, multi-disciplinary clinics and hospitals. They are trained to refer patients to other health care providers when necessary. During the COVID-19 outbreak, chiropractors have been a valuable resource in caring for a segment of the population who may otherwise revert to the emergency rooms. They provide essential care including, without limit, managing acute and urgent spinal, neuro, musculoskeletal and other conditions. These essential chiropractic interventions are critical toward the recommended management of the ongoing opioid crisis and in assisting in keeping emergency room resources free to manage the current COVID-19 pandemic."*

The GCC continues to fight daily for the rights of Georgia's citizens to receive chiropractic care. We will continue to share updates with our members and the community over the

coming weeks and months as this pandemic situation continues. Chiropractors are encouraged to monitor their email frequently as well as GCC's website and social media channels.

The Georgia Council of Chiropractic, founded in 1982, serves the Chiropractic profession in Georgia and is comprised of chiropractors, chiropractic students, and chiropractic assistants from all over the state of Georgia and several other states.

The Georgia Council of Chiropractic is 100% committed to protecting, promoting and perpetuating Chiropractic to benefit Georgia's citizens and the Chiropractors serving in Georgia. It is our mission to profess and promote the ideals and principles upon which our profession and our organization were founded. Therefore, the GCC proclaims that detecting and correcting Vertebral Subluxations is a just and noble cause, which allows people to express 100% of their innate potential for health, happiness and overall well-being.

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For more information about this topic, contact our Executive Director, Katrine Frazier, at info@GeorgiaChiropractic.org.