SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 196

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: NOVEMBER 17, 2025

The Senate Commerce Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 196.

As amended, this bill requires the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners (the "board") to allow for preceptorships for students in the final year or final two semesters of a program in chiropractic medicine. "Preceptorship" is defined in the bill to mean a clinical program in which a student participates in the practice of chiropractic medicine under the direct supervision of a New Jersey-licensed chiropractor. The board is to approve the State-licensed chiropractors who can act as preceptors for students. Additionally, the school, institution, or college of chiropractic in which the student is enrolled is to be approved by the board pursuant to current law.

Under the bill, a student seeking to participate in a preceptorship is to apply to the board for a limited license. A criminal background check is required as part of the application process. The limited license is not to be renewed upon graduation or withdrawal from the chiropractic program in which the limited licensee is enrolled. The bill authorizes the board to promulgate rules and regulations addressing: (1) training and experience requirements for preceptors; (2) direct supervision; (3) the scope of practice for students holding a limited license; and (4) what provisions of current law regulating chiropractors applies to students in preceptorships.

The bill aims to retain graduates of programs of chiropractic medicine based in New Jersey to work as licensed chiropractors in the State.

As amended and reported by the committee, Senate Bill No. 196 is identical to Assembly Bill No. 3099, which was also amended and reported by the committee on this date.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to:

(1) clarify that direct supervision, as defined, requires a State-licensed chiropractor to be on-premises;

(2) delineate items the board is to address in rules and regulations;

(3) require a criminal background check as part of the preceptorship application process; and

(4) stipulate that a limited license to be a preceptor expires upon graduation or withdrawal from the chiropractic program in which the student is enrolled.