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OSCA's House Bill 151 Passes House Floor with 95-1 Vote

(Columbus, OH) Today, The Ohio State Chiropractic Association's bill to create a chiropractic loan repayment program and remedy animal chiropractic language has passed the House Floor by a vote of 95-1. The bill is sponsored by Representative Rick Carfagna (R-Harrison) and has bipartisan support.

This bill in its current form would create a chiropractic loan repayment program to offer chiropractors around the state up to \$30,000 in loan repayment support if they serve in what is deemed a "health resource shortage area" for a specified amount of time, all established by the Director of the Ohio Department of Health. The bill also authorizes an animal chiropractic practitioner to practice animal chiropractic without the supervision of a licensed veterinarian, given that they register with the State Chiropractic Board.

"Chiropractic care is one of most effective, safest, and yet underutilized assets in healthcare," stated Representative Carfagna. He continued, "I've had the opportunity to meet with a number of them and learn what they're doing to ease the pain and suffering for those in the Buckeye state. They're not prescribing or utilizing addictive prescriptions." He also expressed, "This is not a group that is asking for something, rather, they're telling us that they want to be a part of the solution to these problems. They're prepared to step up and grow their own ranks by self-funding this program for within their profession. I applaud that initiative and I appreciate the work that they do in their communities."

This bill is the substitute version of the original bill introduced back on March 20th, 2019. The original language regarding continuing education has been since removed and the addition of animal chiropractic language replaced it. The substitute bill was accepted by the committee on February 5th, 2020.

This bill now goes to the Ohio Senate where it will be assigned a committee. The OSCA will continue to lobby in support of this bill and hope to have it passed before the end of the General Assembly. We will continue to keep membership updated as the bill progresses.

For any questions, please contact the OSCA Office at osca@oscachiro.org.

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