**PROCLAMATION**

A proclamation supporting the goals of ending opioid abuse, advancing utilization of drug-free chiropractic care, and designating September 2020 as Drug-Free Pain Management Awareness Month.

Whereas, prescription opioid use and abuse leading to addiction and catastrophic outcomes has become a national crisis;

Whereas the leading cause of injury death in the United States is drug overdose, and a majority of the deaths from drug overdose deaths involved an opioid;

Whereas from 1999 to 2018, more than 450,000 people have died in the U.S. from overdoses related to prescription opioids;

Whereas we are losing [128](https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/data/statedeaths.html) people a day from opioid overdoses and nearly 47,000 people died from opioid overdoses in the U.S. in 2018;

Whereas the estimates for the total costs of lost productivity due to prescription drug misuse in the U.S. range between [$25.6 billion](https://www.nsc.org/work-safety/safety-topics/drugs-at-work/substances) to $53.4 billion;

Whereas prescription opioids are often recommended for low back, neck and musculoskeletal pain management;

Whereas over 50 million suffer with chronic pain and an estimated 75 to 85 percent of all American will experience some form of back pain during their lifetime;

Whereas doctors of chiropractic are educated and trained to effectively address spinal and

neuro-musculoskeletal pain with non-surgical, non-drug management;

Whereas numerous published studies, including *The Lancet* (March 2018), document spinal manipulation as effective for the management of low back pain;

Whereas the *Bulletin of the World Health Organization* (WHO) published recommendations to manage low back pain initially with non-pharmaceutical interventions, such as spinal manipulation, while avoiding opioids, spinal injections and surgery;

Now, therefore, be it resolved,that September 2020 be declared Drug-Free Pain Management Awareness Month, to raise public awareness that chiropractic care is the primary first-line,

non-pharmacologic approach to safely and effectively relieve acute, subacute and chronic pain.