**LETTER TEMPLATE**

**INSERT STATE ASSOCIATION OR CLINIC LOGO**

**RE: Request for Formal Proclamation Commemorating September 2022: Drug-Free Pain Management Month**

**July XX, 2022**

The Honorable First Name, Last Name

Street Address

City/Town, State, Zip Code

Dear TITLE (Governor, Assembly) AND LAST NAME,

In response to the ongoing opioid crisis and alarming death rate both nationally and in our state, which was accelerated due to the COVID-19 [pandemic](https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2776212), our organization requests that you sponsor a formal proclamation commemorating September 2022 as Drug-Free Pain Management Awareness Month.

Please consider the following statistics:

* We are losing [187](https://www.cdc.gov/opioids/basics/epidemic.html) people a day from opioid overdoses.
* Overdose deaths involving prescription opioids nearly increased by five times from 1999 to [2020](https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/deaths/prescription/overview.html).
* [80%](https://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/drugfacts/heroin) of heroin users reported first misusing prescription opioids.

Chiropractic care is a drug-free, evidence-based and primary option for pain management that yields improved clinical outcomes, reduced costs and high levels of patient satisfaction. In fact, a 2018 [study](https://www.liebertpub.com/doi/abs/10.1089/acm.2017.0131?journalCode=acm) revealed that adults receiving chiropractic care for low back pain were 55 percent less likely to fill a prescription for an opioid analgesic in comparison to adults who did not receive chiropractic care.

Please take this opportunity to visit [www.drugfreepaincare.org](http://www.drugfreepaincare.org) and review the papers: ‘[Chiropractic Care: An Effective, Drug-Free, First-Line Approach To Pain](https://www.f4cp.org/package/home/viewfile/whichiropractic-care-an-effective-drug-free-first-line-approach-to-pain)’ and ‘[As The Opioid Epidemic Rages On, Chiropractic Care Is Recognized As A Safer Option For Pain](https://www.f4cp.org/package/home/viewfile/whias-the-opioid-epidemic-rages-on-chiropractic-care-is-recognized-as-a-safer-option-for-pain).’

We have prepared a proclamation for review. Please see the accompanying document.

Please help to advance the accessibility of care that is drug-free, safe and effective, as well as cost-effective. I look forward to hearing from you regarding this proclamation.

Sincerely,

FIRST NAME, LAST NAME

TITLE, ORGANIZATION

EMAIL; PHONE NUMBER