

Chiropractors—Exemption Privilege—Examination, Prerequisites for Practice and Diploma.

Three months' exemption privilege is computed from the date of election. In order to qualify for examination applicant must have practiced three months prior to passage of law and be graduate of legally chartered school of Chiropractic.

Feb. 8th, 1919.

Mr. F. G. Moore, Secretary,
Montana State Board of Chiropractic Examiners,
Missoula, Montana.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of February 1st, 1919, requesting the opinion of this office upon the following questions:

"1. In determining the 'three months' exemption privilege, referred to in Section 4 of the Chiropractic Law, what is the date of passage of the Chiropractic Law, the date of election, or the date of the Governor's Proclamation?"

"2. Are applicants who have been practicing in the state for three months prior to the passage of the law entitled to the privilege of examination, even though they may not be graduates of reputable schools or colleges?"

Answering your first question I have to advise that the three months' exemption privilege should be construed with reference to the date of election and not the date of the Governor's proclamation. The law did not become effective until adopted by the electors of the state.

Your second question must be answered in the negative. The language of Section 4 applicable, is as follows: "Provided, however, that all persons practicing chiropractic within this State for three months prior to the passage of this law, and holding a Diploma or Certificate," etc., may be licensed to practice chiropractic. By the use of the word "and" it is very apparent that it is a necessary prerequisite to the taking of an examination that the applicant must not only have practiced within this State for three months prior to the passage of the law, but that he must also hold a Diploma or Certificate from a legally chartered school of Chiropractic.

Respectfully,

S. C. FORD,

Attorney General.