

CHIROPRACTIC AWARENESS MONTH October 2015

WHEREAS, Doctors of Chiropractic are physician-level providers who focus on the whole person in their conservative approach to health care and public health, and have particular expertise in the prevention, care, and rehabilitation of musculoskeletal injuries and conditions;

WHEREAS, Doctors of Chiropractic are educated in nationally accredited, four-year doctoral graduate school programs through a curriculum that includes a minimum of 4,200 hours of classroom, laboratory and clinical internship, with the average DC program equivalent in classroom hours to allopathic and osteopathic medical schools and are recognized worldwide for their pain-relieving, health-enhancing and injury prevention services; and

WHEREAS, To date, the failure to adequately address pain in today's health care system has resulted in unnecessary suffering, exacerbation of other medical conditions, enormous loss of human potential, and massive financial and personal costs and, according to a report from the Institute of Medicine in 2011, an estimated 100 million Americans are affected by chronic pain, with an estimated annual cost to American society of at least \$560-635 billion, about \$50 billion per year alone is spent on health care and expenses related to back pain; and

WHEREAS, With an increase in chronic pain, there has been a simultaneous rise in opioid use and overuse and abuse of prescription pain medications in the United States that has now been classified as "epidemic";

WHEREAS, Chiropractic Health Month serves as a reminder to all citizens that they can be a part of a pain-free nation by insisting on exhausting conservative treatments for pain, whenever appropriate, thereby potentially lessening or eliminating the need for riskier, more invasive treatments such as drugs and surgery; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, James S. Mayberry, Mayor of the City of Crossville, Tennessee, officially join with the American Chiropractic Association, the Tennessee Chiropractic Association, Crossville Family Chiropractic and Dr. R.J. Crawford, DC in proclaiming the month of October 2015 as **CHIROPRACTIC HEALTH MONTH** and encourage all citizens of Crossville to join in this observance.