



The Council has been working fervently on the issue of freedom of choice in health care. Before the beginning of the COVID 19 pandemic, we formed a Freedom of Choice Task Force in health care. Unfortunately, with the pandemic, it was sidetracked. We were able to start working on it again for the past month. In addition to the Task Force, our Lobbyist, Perry Ochacher and his team have been keeping us abreast of any pertinent information, legislation, etc. regarding freedom of choice in healthcare.

The Council is very pleased to announce our position statement that was created by our Task Force. This will help us in our ability to serve the community & protect our own health. With this statement, we are hoping to be a leader in this field and provide direction and guidance to the people we serve including our legislators.

The New York Chiropractic Council Position Statement Regarding Healthcare Freedom and Informed Consent

Informed consent builds trust in the health care system. The patient-doctor relationship is founded on trust and individualized treatment. Government mandates violate the privacy of healthcare between families and their healthcare providers. We hold that informed consent - full disclosure of the known benefits, risks and unknowns of healthcare procedures - is fundamental in both ethics and law, is a requirement at the center of morally valid decision-making in healthcare, and should continue to be a basic tenet in healthcare.

Personal freedom and civil liberties are fundamental rights. Adults have a fundamental right to healthcare choices on behalf of themselves and their children, free from governmental interference or mandate, whether those choices are based upon scientific research, medical necessity, philosophic principles or religious precepts.

Philosophical and religious exemptions protect our citizens and our values. We hold that Americans, proud to protect the individuality of personal choice, should maintain the right and ability to make choices in their health care, and that this is fundamental to the core of our civil liberties.

Legislators should support healthcare freedom, civil liberties and parental rights. Americans hold inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. State/government mandated medical procedures impose upon those rights. We fundamentally disagree with authorizing our state/government the ability to mandate any medical procedure compromising the freedom of competent adults to make personal healthcare choices on behalf of themselves and their children. Our Legislators should at all times protect and defend all of our inalienable rights.