

House Bill 816

By: Representatives Mathiak of the 73rd, Williams of the 145th, Hawkins of the 27th, Bonner of the 72nd, and Greene of the 151st

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 14-7-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 professional services in which a professional corporation may engage, so as to provide that
3 chiropractors may own professional corporations with physicians; to provide for related
4 matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 14-7-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to professional
8 services in which a professional corporation may engage, is amended by revising
9 subsection (a) as follows:

10 "(a) A professional corporation may practice only one profession, but for the purpose of
11 this chapter;

12 (1) ~~The~~ the practice of architecture, professional engineering, and land surveying shall
13 be considered the practice of only one profession to the extent that existing laws permit
14 overlapping practices by members of those specific professions not inconsistent with the
15 ethics of the professions involved; ~~and~~;

16 (2) ~~To~~ to the extent not inconsistent with the ethics of the professions involved or
17 otherwise prohibited by law, physicians specializing in ophthalmology ~~that~~ who are
18 practicing within their scope of practice as established by law may organize and jointly
19 own a professional corporation with optometrists ~~that~~ who are practicing within their
20 scope of practice as established by law; provided, however, that nothing in this paragraph
21 shall authorize optometrists to attach the title 'physician' to such optometrists' names or
22 to the name of the professional corporation; and

23 (3) To the extent not inconsistent with the ethics of the professions involved or otherwise
24 prohibited by law, chiropractors who are practicing within their scope of practice as
25 established by law may organize and jointly own a professional corporation with
26 physicians who are practicing within their scope of practice as established by law;

27 provided, however, that nothing in this paragraph shall authorize chiropractors to attach
28 the title 'physician' to such chiropractors' names or to the name of the professional
29 corporation."

30

SECTION 2.

31 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.