

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3824

Greetings. I am a dual licensed practitioner of Chiropractic and Acupuncture in the state of Oregon. I attended a full Doctorate program of Chiropractic and then attended a full master's degree program to practice acupuncture in Oregon. It is beyond me, how a physical therapist (not a doctorate) would be allowed to do needle insertion along the same lines as an acupuncturist would, without a master's in acupuncture in Oregon. If it is going to be allowed for physical therapists, then chiropractors should certainly be granted the ability to do the same, as a chiropractor is recognized as a primary care physician in Oregon and a physical therapist is not and their general training in all areas of medicine is more extensive than a physical therapist. There will be little argument no to then allow chiropractors to do the same, if you allow physical therapists to do so. Beyond all that, it is confusing to patients when a physical therapist does needle insertion under the guise of "dry needling". Patients liken the needle to acupuncture and in my knowledge, patients can be a lot more sore from dry needling and may then label acupuncture as something that makes them exceedingly sore (the lactic acid dump that dry needling causes). Dry needling is not a balanced treatment providing a holistic perspective to care but patients will mistakenly label it acupuncture. Please oppose the ability for physical therapists to do dry needling as it will trigger a lot of misinformation across the alternative health care professions.