

Submitter: Danielle Aragon

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

Oregon has long held high standards for patient safety and professional qualifications in healthcare. Allowing physical therapists to perform acupuncture without the comprehensive education and clinical training required of licensed acupuncturists compromises those standards and puts Oregonians at risk.

Acupuncture is not simply “dry needling” or a physical therapy technique. It is a distinct medical system that involves the insertion of needles near critical anatomical structures. Licensed acupuncturists in Oregon must complete over 3,000 hours of education, including in-depth study of anatomy, physiology, pathology, and clean needle technique. In contrast, physical therapists may receive as little as 24 hours of training in dry needling nowhere near the level required to ensure safe, effective treatment.

This proposal is not about expanding access it’s about lowering the bar for invasive procedures that demand specialized expertise. Patients deserve to be treated by professionals who are fully trained and certified in the therapies they offer.

Protect public safety and the integrity of Oregon’s healthcare system vote NO on allowing physical therapists to perform acupuncture.