

Submitter: Kayla Miller  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

Dear Committee Chairs:

I am an Oregon resident and I am urging you to support HB3824. As a healthcare consumer in the state, I urge you to bring Oregon in line with 46 other states and the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy to make the practice of dry needling by a certified and licensed physical therapist legal in the state for the following reasons:

- Dry needling has been safely practiced by physical therapists since the 1990s with extremely low adverse event rates (less than 0.1% according to multiple large-scale studies), and PT liability insurers report no increased claims related to this practice.
- Physical therapists receive comprehensive doctoral-level anatomical training, with the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy confirming that 88% of competencies required for safe dry needling are already included in accredited DPT curricula.
- Multiple Supreme Courts in other states have affirmed that dry needling is distinct from acupuncture and properly within physical therapy scope, recognizing that health professions naturally have overlapping practices that benefit patient choice.
- In our current healthcare climate where Oregonians struggle with access to care, allowing qualified physical therapists to perform dry needling would increase availability of this evidence-based intervention that has been incorporated into clinical practice guidelines.
- Dry needling specifically targets functional changes in anatomical structures using western medical principles, which is fundamentally different from acupuncture's approach based on Chinese medicine principles of meridians and energy flow.
- Supporting HB 3824 in its entirety ensures Oregonians have access to safe, effective care from licensed providers while aligning our state with national best practices.

In summary, I urge you to support HB3824. Oregonians deserve access to safe, effective, evidence based care by licensed providers. As someone who has received this treatment elsewhere, I can personally attest to its effectiveness.

Thank you.