

Submitter: Sahaji Fisher
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

Hello,

I oppose HB 3824.

Needling is not currently in the scope of a PT because it requires a thorough education and it's a specialty. It took me 4 years to learn how to safely and effectively needle a patient.

I am both an RN and a Licensed Acupuncturist. I've had a full time acupuncture clinic in Silverton for over 10 years. Every week in my clinic, I send patients to PT's for proper evaluation and treatment of different musculoskeletal conditions because that is their scope of practice. Needling is not, that's the job of an acupuncturist. I do not do the work of a PT because it's not my specialty and profession.

If we water down our expertise, no one wins. If we create strong networks of care where clients are receiving the best care, everyone wins. PT's can refer to acupuncturists and acupuncturists can refer to PT's, each for the specialization that their schooling provides.

I feel that this bill will confuse the public about needling, and I do think it will involve injury to patients. Needling has its risks. While I was in school, I myself suffered from a pneumothorax from an improperly placed needle. This is why we go through rigorous training. PT's will not be required to undergo the training necessary to practice safely and competently.

Again, no one wins with this bill.