

Submitter:	Ramona C. Horton
On Behalf Of:	Medical Consumers of the State of Oregon
Committee:	Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB3824

Dear Committee Chairs,

My name is Ramona Horton, I am a military veteran, a Physical Therapist (PT) and a consumer of health care. I am writing in support of HB 3824, as it will provide Oregon residents with high quality of care, improve accessibility, and reduce healthcare costs. While on active duty as a PT, and currently US military PTs serve as physician extenders. They are able to order X-rays, limited prescriptions and place a service member on light duty following an injury. Dry needling is included in the privileges for all Federal Physical Therapist at military and VA facilities in all 50 states and territories.

In addition, I am a three-time breast cancer survivor. Radiation to my chest wall I developed severe right upper extremity peripheral neuropathy. Medical intervention, multiple episodes of massage, chiropractic, and traditional acupuncture failed to alleviate the searing pain in my right arm. One single episode of Dry Needling performed by a college while traveling back east provided 90% pain relief.

Expansion of scope of practice for licensed health care providers needs to be based on providing the highest quality care for the public, not a turf battle. Dry needling is an effective and highly efficient technique based on medical physiology, not tradition handed down over 2000 years. I urge you to support HB3824 in its entirety. Oregonians deserve access to safe, effective, evidence-based care by licensed providers.

Sincerely, Ramona C. Horton, MPT, DPT