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

As a Physical Therapist that has worked in an acute setting, outpatient orthopedic services, & Sports Medicine for 24 years, I have spent countless hours spent trying to contact a primary care provider (PCP) to write a prescription for supplies or equipment the patient needs that I as the deciding professional provider deemed necessary for the patient. Not only does the PCP not only know how to decide this normally, they may not have even seen the patient recently enough to know what they need. This is a waste of time & money for one profession to track down another provider for supplies/equipment they sent to Physical Therapy in the first place to get!! These are things like walkers, braces, or other basic equipment that is usually being addressed by PT already & well within our scope of practice.

On the topic of Dry Needling (DN)- I believe we are one of only a few states left in the ENTIRE country that still don't allow DN in some form. There is a concept called "Standard of Practice" in medicine that is the premise that we should ALL be using "best practice" for patients that is demonstrated in Evidence Based Literature. This clearly is the case for Dry Needling being a safe & effective treatment for musculoskeletal problems. There are various educational levels that most states regulate allowing us to model after some of these rather than reinvent the wheel with regulation. One can Google this topic and see in a very short time that Physical Therapy uses Dry Needling regularly, internationally, safely & as Oregonians we should be able to offer this treatment. Patients are coming in asking about because they read about it on the internet as a primary method of treatment and asking why we don't offer this.