

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3824

Acupuncturists receive three to four years of training in a unique system of body meridians before they can insert needles. Within this well respected profession, there is so much thoughtfulness and dedication in creating a treatment plan for a patient. Needle insertion by PTs (that does not include this kind of training) is highly disrespectful and opens the door to many legal issues. It does not make sense and creates danger to the patient.

There will be the assumption for patients and clients that physical therapists have the same level of training that acupuncturists do, and that is inaccurate. Why would physical therapists try to overreach with this scope of practice? I have already seen injuries in my patients caused by "dry needling" from folks who have not had the depth or breadth of needling that acupuncture teaches. It does not escape me that the part of the training missing from needle insertion is \*the framework of Chinese medicine\*. It is offensive to lift a small piece of this long term training and licensure and offer it to another profession. The acupuncture points have thousands of years of history and efficacy. Please oppose this ridiculous erasure of Chinese medicine and acupuncture by not allowing "needle insertion" for an unrelated profession.

Thanks!