

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

My name is John Braide and I've been a Licensed Acupuncturist for 23 years and working in the healthcare field for 30 years. I have held numerous jobs from healthcare journal editor, to contributing author, to educator, and massage therapist before getting this license. I had to attend 4 years of postgraduate study to obtain a Masters degree in Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine, and because of my—and my colleagues'—extensive education and experience, adverse events from acupuncture are rare.

So, to find that physical therapists may be able to perform a procedure that I have developed an expertise in after more than 3000 hours of study feels insulting to me and my profession.

Physical therapists do not need to handle needles or use them as part of their modalities/scope of practice when they possess other primary tools that give them the expertise in rehabilitating an individual's body mechanics. To add this ability to a PT's scope of practice after minimal training puts the patient's health at risk and threatens the general perception of the acupuncture profession as patients become exposed to inexperienced care.

Thank you.
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