

Submitter:

Adam Anson

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3824

Members of the Senate Committee on Health Care,

My name is Adam Anson. I am from Klamath Falls, Oregon and I am here in opposition to HB 3824, specifically the inclusion of “needle insertion” (Page 3, Line 37) in the physical therapy scope of practice. The term refers to dry needling, a technique that uses acupuncture needles to penetrate the skin and stimulate muscle or nerve tissue—functionally equivalent to acupuncture, as defined in Oregon law. As acupuncturists and OM practitioners we dedicated ourselves to providing safe and comprehensive care for our patients. In my time as an acupuncturist, I have encountered several instances of individuals verbalizing “dry needling” as different from acupuncture. This is concerning as they are emphasizing infringement into our scope of practice, and as practitioners who insert needles. The verbiage of the law and scope of practice as it stands, has allowed for undermining our profession and experience from different fields ; with the addition of “Needle insertion” this further subverts an entire profession and medicine.

As stated, our time, experience, education, and practices focus on safe needle insertion, depth and stimulation to our patients. Practitioners working outside of our education and scope of practice with limited experience in needle insertion increase risk to the patient. For these reasons stated and unstated I am in opposition to HB 3824, specifically the inclusion of “needle insertion” (Page 3, Line 37) in the physical therapy scope of practice.