

Submitter:

Jacqueline Landrum

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3824

Hello,

I am writing to you as a licensed acupuncturist and business owner. I oppose authorizing a physical therapist to prescribe durable medical equipment, or to perform "Dry Needling" on patients. After school I worked in a physical therapy office in Bend. I greatly respect physical therapy as a medical profession, and I also very much respect and enjoy my PT friends. Before I proceed, I would like to focus on the word "respect". In Acupuncture school, which, as you know, its a 4-5 year program of 3,000 educational hours, we have some courses taught by Chiropractors. Do you think, then, it's reasonable to begin taking a little course, and studying on the side, some 'manipulation" and cracking our patients spines? Simply because we had a couple hours education by a Chiropractor, and it would be "convenient for our patients" to also have that service added on for their benefit?

Or do you think that perhaps, since we take 2 year long courses learning where every bone, ligament, and muscle resides in the body, its insertion and origin, and how they work, that we as Acupuncturists should begin creating physical therapy plans for patients, and create a gym with exercise work stations, simply because we "can"? Maybe take a weekend course in it, and then begin billing for those CPT codes? A "one stop shop" for our patients so that they don't have to go to a Physical Therapist? But a more important question is, how would you feel if we did that? Maybe we should do that? Then we can just do the same work, but call ourselves different names. At that point, what is the difference except we as Acupuncturists have a minimal almost laughable education surrounding Physical Therapy, yet are performing it?

This, is exactly what you as a profession are doing. You are raping our work. You are taking what you want, without having the humility to study the medicine earnestly, as it was meant to be studied. Your definition that Dry Needling is more "scientifically accurate" simply because a "Doctor Created it" is racist. We are Doctors of Chinese Medicine. Over 5,000 years ago, this medicine began. You are saying that some person, within the last 50 years, has re-imagined "better" points for re-setting the Nerve Bundle Fiber of a muscle? I wonder what Matt Callison or Whitfield Reeves would say about this? They are celebrated teachers of sports medicine acupuncture.

Another important point you are missing is that each acupuncture point has a MEANING. It has energetic relevance. If you needles too many of a certain category of points, you can actually put that patient into an emotionally volatile state. You do not know what you are doing. You have not studied the meaning of the points. It could be considered reckless medicine, what you are doing, and I would argue it is. It could very well "do harm." Have you ever seen a patient struggling with anxiety or

depression have a panic attack, or a low period where they felt suicidal due to a treatment not being performed the correct way? No, you have not, because you have no idea what you're doing. You're pillaging the ancient medicine into some modern day perversion, designed to completely disregard the medicine as a whole, and use it for your own selfish benefit, and financial gain.

Lastly, the words HUMILITY and INTEGRITY come to mind. If you were humble and had integrity, you would have the self awareness to admit that trying to subvert an ancient medicine for your own selfish benefit. Humility would be going to study the medicine at an accredited school for 4-5 more years, as we have all done. Humility would be realizing the medicine is so much deeper than your 60 hour weekends course, and some hands on practice. Integrity, would be feeling guilty for disrespecting an ancient, complete medicine the way you are disrespecting it, and every single Acupuncturist who has put in their time to practice and perform this ancient and POWERFUL medicine. Just because you want to, doesn't mean you can.