

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

To Members of the Senate Committee on Health Care,

My name is Yoshi Wang, and I am a licensed acupuncturist practicing in Portland, Oregon. I'm writing to respectfully express my opposition to House Bill 3824, particularly the inclusion of "needle insertion" in the physical therapy scope of practice.

As written, this bill would allow individuals who are not licensed acupuncturists to perform procedures that involve penetrating the skin with acupuncture needles. In Oregon, acupuncture is defined by statute (ORS 677.757) as the insertion of needles to stimulate specific points on the body—a practice that currently requires licensure through the Oregon Medical Board.

To become licensed, acupuncturists must complete thousands of hours of training, including coursework in anatomy, physiology, needling technique, and clean needle protocols, as well as hundreds of hours in supervised clinical practice. This level of education is essential for ensuring patient safety and competent care. In contrast, dry needling training for physical therapists generally ranges from 20 to 100 hours, with no national standard or consistent oversight.

My concern is not about professional territory, but about ensuring that all patients in Oregon receive safe, qualified, and transparent care. When procedures involve inserting needles into the body—especially near vital structures—adequate education and oversight are critical.

I respectfully urge the committee to reconsider the inclusion of "needle insertion" in HB 3824 and preserve the training standards and licensure pathways that exist to protect public health.

Thank you for your time and consideration.