

Submitter: Lenore Cangeloso

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

I am writing as a licensed acupuncturist and concerned constituent to express my strong opposition to any legislation or regulation that would allow physical therapists (PTs) to perform dry needling.

Dry needling, despite being presented as a modern technique, is clearly derived from traditional acupuncture. As such, it involves the insertion of solid filiform needles into the body—an invasive procedure that requires extensive, specialized training in anatomy, physiology, and needle technique. Licensed acupuncturists undergo thousands of hours of education and clinical experience to understand not only how to needle safely but also the complex diagnostic systems that guide our work.

Allowing PTs to perform dry needling with minimal training undermines both public safety and the integrity of acupuncture as a licensed profession. It puts patients at risk, misrepresents the complexity of this therapeutic technique, and devalues the years of study and clinical expertise that licensed acupuncturists bring to their practice.

Furthermore, acupuncturists are already compensated at significantly lower rates than many other healthcare providers. Permitting PTs to perform needling without equivalent training threatens our livelihoods, diverts patients away from qualified practitioners, and diminishes our ability to sustain our practices.

This is not an issue of professional turf—it is an issue of patient safety, professional integrity, and respect for established licensure standards. I urge you to protect the public and support fair healthcare practices by opposing legislation that permits physical therapists to practice dry needling.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Lenore Cangeloso LAC