

Submitter:

Joelle Ellis

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3824

Hello, I am a licensed massage therapist in the state of Oregon. I am very concerned about the definitions and wording in HB 3824 that would allow physical therapists to do needle insertion or "dry needling" techniques on patients with very little training. I work with acupuncturists that do this type of work but with extensive training of anatomy to insert safely without hitting nerves, blood vessels, organs, or other vulnerable tissues. As a patient I would not feel at all comfortable to give consent for needle insertion without more than a short course in training that physical therapists receive to do this work.

I have friends that see dry needling done by PTs on TikTok and try to go get this work done without any knowledge of the little amount of training that they do. Therefore the public cannot give informed consent to this properly.

A key concern for me and for patients is the lack of mandatory minimum training or education standards for physical therapists to perform needle insertion under HB 3824. Furthermore, the bill does not establish a neutral regulatory entity to oversee this practice, raising fears about inadequate safety and accountability measures.