

Submitter: Dave Roth
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824
May 8, 2025

Senate Committee on Health Care
Oregon State Capitol, 900 Court Street NE

Chair Patterson and Members of the Committee,

I'm writing to express my opposition to HB3824 as written. I am not necessarily opposed to expanding the scope of practice for Physical Therapists in Oregon, however this bill proposes one specific change that presents a potentially existential threat to licensed acupuncturists practicing in Oregon. I want to draw your attention to just two words on line 37 of page 3 that, if included in the bill, would profoundly impact the livelihood of over 1,200 licensed acupuncturists in our state. These two words are "needle insertion." If HB3824 passes with these two simple words included, physical therapists, with no specific acupuncture education, training, or licensure, would effectively be allowed to practice acupuncture.

What this means is that acupuncturists, who often already struggle to make ends meet in a challenging industry, will be subject to new competition that could put many completely out of business. I ask that you please strike these two words from the bill.

If the intention of this bill is to allow physical therapists to administer vaccines, then be specific with the language to limit the expansion of their scope of practice to this action - not to broadly expand the scope to include acupuncture treatments generally.

Thank you for your consideration,
Dave Roth
Eugene, OR