

Submitter: Xiang Ji

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

Good morning,

I'm a licensed acupuncturist in the state of Oregon, the associate medicinary manager at NUNM, and an adjunct faculty in NUNM as well. Speaking from my experiences across there different roles, I am very concerned over allowing PT to insert needles w/o the extensive trainings (about 3 years for a degree in acupuncture, 4 years for a degree in acupuncture and herbology) that acupuncturists recdive. This is not against PTs, as I respect them and that they play an important role in patient care. Oftentimes my patients also employ services by PT, MT, and other healthcare professionals to facilitate their recovery. That being said, there are many safety precautions, contraindications, and other concerns within the framework of Chinese Medicine that are important when needling that PTs are not trained in. These details, nusances, and considerations are very important not just for safety reasons, but also for clinical efficacy. I have had patients where other Chinese Medicine modalities were improperly applied (cupping, moxa, etc) that led to additional pain, not alleviation.

If PTs and other professionals receive trainings and education in acupuncture and Chinese Medicine, I'd be all for it. But as things stand, I believe there will be a higher risk of instances of misapplications and improper usage of needling.

Respectfully,

Xiang Ji