

Submitter:

Zachary Nelms

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3824

I am a medical professional who advocates for the field of Physical Therapy, however, I am adamantly opposed to Physical Therapists practicing Dry Needling. Dry Needling requires exacting precision in order to avoid puncturing the lungs, major blood vessels, and nerves.

Improper technique can cause serious complications, including pneumothorax, nerve damage, and vascular injury.

Licensed acupuncturists in Oregon undergo 2,500–3,500 hours of training, including over 800 hours of supervised clinical practice. In contrast, dry needling certification courses for physical therapists typically range from just 20 to 100 hours. Allowing this bill to pass jeopardizes patient safety. In fact, it is well documented that Dry Needling frequently causes pneumothorax and injury to blood vessels and nerves.

I implore you to reduce patient risk by stopping this disastrous bill.

Thank you for your time.