

Submitter: Victoria Sous  
On Behalf Of: ILSA - Illinois Society of Acupuncturists  
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

The Illinois Society of Acupuncturists (ILSA) stands in strong solidarity with the Oregon Association of Acupuncturists (OAA) in opposing Oregon House Bill 3824. This proposed legislation is a dangerous and ill-advised effort to allow physical therapists to perform “insertive needling” without the appropriate training, regulatory oversight, or qualifications.

Regardless of terminology—whether “dry needling” or “insertive needling”—the procedure involves inserting solid filiform needles into muscle tissue, which is clearly within the scope of acupuncture, a licensed and regulated profession. Acupuncture requires extensive education, clinical training, and national certification. Using alternative terms to describe acupuncture is a clear attempt to bypass regulatory standards and misrepresent the risks involved.

Our concern is not theoretical- it is grounded in experience. In Illinois, while physical therapists are permitted to perform dry needling, they are not held to formal educational or competency standards. There is no national certification pathway or enforcement of regulatory compliance, leaving the practice unchecked and jeopardizing public safety. In fact, full compliance with Illinois regulations would require an additional six months to a year of specialized training, which is neither part of the physical therapy curriculum nor pursued, highlighting a disregard for patient safety and quality control.

Rather than following the path of Illinois, where accountability and patient safety have been led astray, Oregon has the opportunity to be a pioneer in setting the standard for medical practices and procedures. By rejecting HB 3824, Oregon can lead the way in upholding the highest standards of healthcare, ensuring that practices like acupuncture remain safe, effective, and properly regulated—thereby prioritizing patient well-being and reinforcing public trust.

The Illinois Society of Acupuncturists urges the Oregon State Legislature to reject this bill in its entirety, and we stand united with the Oregon Association of Acupuncturists in defending the integrity of the acupuncture profession and ensuring that patients receive care from appropriately trained and licensed professionals.

Respectfully submitted,  
ILSA Board (Illinois Society of Acupuncturists)