

Submitter: Sarah Snyder

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

As a licensed acupuncturist, I strongly urge you to oppose HB3824. This bill will allow physical therapists (PTs) to perform acupuncture without the necessary training to provide this therapy. Licensed Acupuncturists (LAc) attend graduate school for 3-5 years, which include over 2,500 clinical hours of training, whereas PTs would merely take a weekend or short course. Licensed acupuncturists in Oregon also must pass three national board exams in order to practice acupuncture at the end of their graduate studies. I am fully in support of the public having more access to therapies, but this can be accomplished by PTs referring to LAc for acupuncture, not by them performing the therapy without proper training. This presents dangers to the public. Acupuncture is a modality of East Asian Medicine and should only be performed by practitioners who have education and training in this system of medicine. Thank you for your time and your understanding that this should not pass.