

Submitter: Chase Hartley  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824  
To Whom It May Concern,

As a licensed acupuncturist practicing in Oregon, I am writing in strong opposition to HB 3824, which would permit physical therapists to perform needle insertion—a procedure defined under Oregon law as acupuncture.

This bill undermines patient safety and devalues the rigorous education and clinical training required for safe and effective acupuncture practice. Licensed acupuncturists in Oregon complete thousands of hours in specialized coursework, clean needle technique, and supervised clinical practice. In contrast, the proposed pathway would allow physical therapists to perform invasive procedures after minimal training, without equivalent oversight or comprehensive understanding of meridian systems, internal organ relationships, or potential adverse reactions.

Needle insertion is not simply a mechanical act—it is a diagnostic and therapeutic intervention grounded in a sophisticated medical framework. Without proper training, there is a heightened risk of harm to patients, including misdiagnosis, nerve damage, organ puncture, and inadequate sterile technique.

Oregon has long been a leader in integrative, patient-centered care. Allowing the scope of acupuncture to be diluted by insufficiently trained providers sets a dangerous precedent and weakens the protections our licensure system is designed to uphold.

For the safety of our patients and the integrity of our healthcare system, I urge you to vote NO on HB 3824.

Sincerely,  
Chase Hartley