

Submitter: Rebecca Provorse
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

Dear Senate Committee members:
Thank you for your service to support Oregon!

I am writing to submit my opinion of opposition to HB 3824, which proposes number changes to the scope of practice for physical therapists (PT).

I am a fan of PT as a tool and have prescribed for many a patient in the over 20 years of medical practice as a licensed Oregon naturopathic physician and acupuncturist.

While I appreciate creating greater access to therapies for patients (especially those that reduce risk for opiate use/abuse), the content of HB 3824 appears to over-step what seems reasonable and safe for the physical therapist (based on their education and training).

I am opposed to PTs being able to insert needles ("wet" for injection, vaccination or "dry needling (aka acupuncture) without the theory, supervision and hours of training that would be required for MAs, PAs, Acs or physicians. Actual physical harm may happen here.

I am open to PTs using ultrasound for therapy, but NOT for internal diagnostics, not without adequate technical training.

While I understand that putting hands on patients for physiotherapy might lend itself to wanting to perform joint manipulation, PTs do not receive the appropriate training, supervision and practice that osteopaths, naturopaths and chiropractors do for such sensitive adjustments. Actual physical harm may happen here.

It seems this bill bypasses critical medical licensing safeguards and allows some invasive, high-risk procedures without appropriate education or regulation.

I urge you to return this to its creators for modification or dismissal.

Thank you for your time,
Dr. Rebecca Provorse (ND, MSOM/LAc)
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