



Chair Patterson, Vice-Chair Hayden, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Jennifer Crane, I'm a performing arts physical therapist and athletic trainer here in Portland. I am writing to voice my strong support for this bill, particularly its inclusion of dry needling.

I've been a sports physical therapist for 13 years, initially working in academia researching dry needling and teaching it in DPT programs, including the Army-Baylor DPT program.

I'd like to speak to the point that dry needling is not acupuncture, it is an entirely separate modality. To illustrate this difference, I'd like to share my experience working as a PT in China among traditional Chinese medicine practitioners.

In 2015, the Chinese Olympic Committee hired me to work with their olympic athletes in preparation for the Rio Olympics. They hired me specifically because of my dry needling expertise. They wanted this modality available to their athletes because they recognized that our approach is distinctly different from acupuncture, and they wanted their athletes to benefit from diverse treatment options.

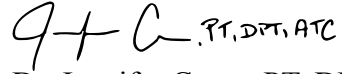
As a PT entering an unfamiliar environment, I was warmly welcomed by their sports medicine team. We each respected the other's use of the same tool—filiform needles—within our different eastern and western treatment approaches. **We understood that the tool does not define the practitioner.**

Throughout that year, I worked alongside their acupuncturists and TCM doctors not as their competition, but as a valued team member. They never referred to my dry needling practice as acupuncture, they had a distinct word for it, one that was most often paired with the Mandarin word for physical therapist. They never questioned my competence or safety; in fact, they assigned me to work exclusively with their top gold medal contenders.

This collaborative environment allowed athletes to choose their preferred care provider—and that's what we are advocating for, as well: giving Oregonians more options for safe and effective care, enabling them to select the approach that best suits their needs.

My hope in sharing this story is that if traditional Chinese medicine practitioners in China—the birthplace of acupuncture—can recognize the distinct value of dry needling as performed by physical therapists, that we in Oregon can, as well.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Crane", followed by the text ".PT, DPT, ATC".

Dr. Jennifer Crane, PT, DPT, ATC