

To the State of Oregon:

I am writing as an out of state PT who has practiced in Oregon as a travel PT. Two points in this legislation that would significantly benefit quality of PT care and improve access to necessary medical care to patients. When I was practicing in Oregon I was certified to perform dry needling and had to refrain from treating residents of Oregon to the best of my abilities due to restrictions in your state where I had situations that would have benefitted patients had I been able to apply dry needling. To perform dry needling one has to go through extensive training to become certified, in addition to the anatomy and physiology that we already apply daily as Doctors of Physical Therapy. Dry Needling and acupuncture are different as the rationale that a patient would receive from a PT targets muscles and can effect the kinematics of a system from a different approach that an acupuncturist likely does not understand. Restraining PTs from this practice is a disservice to your citizens as PTs have extensive knowledge to apply Dry Needling and are more than qualified to avoid adverse medical events during this practice. Additionally in my home state MN I am authorized to provide handicap passes. In this case we are the professionals in the medical field that assess people's function and are likely the most qualified to do so. This is an obvious portion that should be passed. As a PT who has worked in other states we are already completing these tasks at a high level and should not be restricted. In short, I see only benefits for patients in Oregon with passing the upcoming legislation.

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