

Submitter: Emma Bowman  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

I am writing in support of this bill.

I have spent sometime reading through the different testimony's submitted opposing this bill, and while I can see other professionals concerns, I would like to say that I do not think they are valid. The main concern I have seen brought up is that us PT's "only" have to do a weekend course to become certified in dry needling and believe this argument is demeaning to our degree. This is doctorate level degree where we spend countless hours throughout our 3 years of schooling learning, studying and understanding the entire body's anatomy, it's structures and how to keep patient's safe in addition to becoming certified in dry needling. There are are also 3 different levels (DN-1, DN-2 and DN-3) that are intensive courses we are required to take in addition to our 3 years of graduate school. Also, I did my PT schooling in Indiana (one of the 38 states where dry needling is allowed), and was exposed to it throughout multiple different clinicals and in my education. It is a method that I have seen be transformative for many patients throughout my education. So no, it is not just a weekend course for us.

In regards to PT's ordering imaging for pts. There have been multiple studies performed demonstrating that PT's are competent to order imaging and are less likely to over-utilize imaging resources. We are able to decide when imaging is appropriate with great accuracy. Right now if I believe a patient is appropriate for imaging, I have to refer them to a physician who then has to order imaging, where if PT's were able to order imaging, this would cut out the middle man and we would have less health care waste.

I believe the same argument is used for ordering DME - PT's are required to assess a patient to determine what equipment is appropriate for pts, but we are unable to order the specific equipment without a physician signature when they are not even appropriate health care providers to decide what equipment a patient needs.