

Submitter: Chad Yanagisawa
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

To whom it may concern,

I am a student trying to attain my doctorate in physical therapy here in Oregon. I have noticed that there are limitations to the practice in Oregon that other states do not have. This bill will help Oregon physical therapists to be on a similar playing field, or even better than those other states. Being able to act as primary care providers will not only free up case loads of overwhelmed doctors, it will also allow for more people to be treated and cared for which is the reason why I want to be a PT. I want to be able to treat and care for others to my full capacity, but can't do that if there is a limitation set by laws (such as using sonographic imaging and dry needling). As a student attaining my doctorate in physical therapy, I have worked hard for over 5 years of extra schooling (4 years of undergrad, and finished my first year of DPT). With this being said I deserve the right to have DPT in front of my name as I've worked hard to get it. Others such as dynamic personal trainers only need a high school diploma and a personal training certification to wear DPT. To me this is not fair, I am in debt, study for more hours than they work in a week, and have a higher education but still don't have the right to put DPT in front of my name as I did not complete the program yet. It is not only frustrating for me, but it may mislead patients to thinking personal training is the same as physical therapy. This will lead to inappropriate care and maybe even lawsuits. I think it's only fair for those who complete a Doctorate of physical therapy program to deserve the right to the DPT title.

Thank you for your time,
Chad Yanagisawa