

Submitter: Kiara Cordes
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

Dear Representatives,

I am writing to express my grave concern regarding House Bill 3824, which contains language that would dramatically and inappropriately expand the scope of practice for physical therapists to include acupuncture and other needle-based therapies without adequate training or education.

While the bill appears on its surface to address vaccination administration by physical therapists, the actual language in Section (9)(b) surreptitiously introduces "needle insertion" as a permitted treatment intervention within the physical therapy scope of practice. This broad and vague terminology would effectively permit physical therapists to practice acupuncture without completing the rigorous education and training required of licensed acupuncturists.

The scope of practice and training that physical therapists receive is nowhere near as comprehensive as an MD or other physicians who have the education needed for vaccination scheduling, safety, and informed consent.

For context, licensed acupuncturists typically complete:

- 4-5 years of specialized education
- 3,000+ hours of accredited training
- Extensive clinical supervision
- Comprehensive board examinations
- Continuing education requirements

We must be more scrupulous in our laws as they concern Oregonians health and safety. While it may seem like a benefit, it can cause more harm than good.

I urge you to please consider what is best for all Oregonians.

Thank you,
Kiara Cordes