

Submitter: Lauren Mendez

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

In regards to the proposed Bill HB 3824 allowing physical therapists to perform needle insertion, I strongly oppose this bill based on my professional opinion as a licensed acupuncturist of 8 years. My opinion is based on the extensive training required to become a licensed acupuncturist compared to the very short training to become certified in "dry needling" along with feed back I hear from my community regarding receiving painful and ineffective "dry needling" from non-acupuncturists. I believe the only practitioners qualified to perform needle insertion are licensed acupuncturists. This bill poses a huge public safety issue. Please take into consideration that licensed acupuncturists undergo 4-5 years of doctorate level education while also developing supervised needling technique and needling safety skills and are certified in Clean Needle Technique during these 4-5 years. I hope that public safety is held with utmost consideration.

Sincerely,
Lauren Mendez, L.Ac.