

Submitter: Roxanne OHara

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

I am a year 3 out of 4 student of Chinese Medicine at NUNM in Portland OR. I am concerned about the approach to dry needling and level of training that would be required for Physical Therapists to provide dry needling. We (acupuncturists) receive thousands of hours of training to be able to safely use acupuncture needles for both musculoskeletal and internal medicine concerns. The risks associated with practitioners with very limited training utilizing aggressive techniques to break up musculoskeletal adhesions posed a very real risk of injury to blood vessels, nerves, organs (including the lungs), and even the sensitive musculoskeletal structures being targeted are very real and include very definite physical harm. Oregon is also home to a very large number of highly trained, experienced, and sensitive licensed acupuncturists. We do not have deficit of well trained acupuncturists providing skilled musculoskeletal care and do not require this increase in scope of practice for the public to be receiving appropriate health care.