

Submitter: Carol Acheson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

I oppose physical therapist from doing dry needling. Acupuncturist complete 4 years of an intense masters and doctoral program with over 3,000 hours which includes clinic, biomedicine, foundations, point location and Chinese herbal medicine to graduate. Students are in clinic for 2-3 full years being supervised by licensed acupuncturists and doctors. After the students graduate they take national exams from the NCCAOM in order to get certified to practice acupuncture. Graduates that want to practice in California take the CALE exam.

Physical therapist do not have the training to perform dry needling on patients. A weekend workshop is not sufficient to do dry needling. Dry needling is acupuncture. This bill would take business away from acupuncturist by allowing Physical therapist to perform dry needling versus referring them to a professional acupuncturist. Most acupuncturists are now doctors of acupuncture and oriental medicine.