

Dear Senate Committee on Health Care,

I am requesting you oppose HB3824 at this time. The people of Oregon rely upon your input to ensure that the medical providers that offer care to them and their loved ones in the State of Oregon are at minimum properly trained to minimize injury and reduce gross negligence of the modality that they are seeking. The art of referral is our bridge that creates a safety net. As no single provider type can, nor should be responsible for, doing everything safely or effectively due to the training that each modality of care can require.

Vaccines should be left in the jurisdiction of the Pharmacists, Nurses and Primary Care Providers that understand proper administration, handling and storage of vaccines. I personally know several people who received injury from the COVID vaccines fast roll out due to improper handling and site administration. Vaccine administration should NOT be in the Physical Therapy Boards hands. We need public confidence of our vaccine handling to keep them effective and to be utilized.

Dry needling is also an unnecessary addition to the Physical Therapist scope in Oregon. We have a healthy Acupuncture community here in Oregon. They are well trained and overseen by our Oregon Medical Board. Acupuncture is considered a medical practice in Oregon capable of treating many ailments and concerns from the physical, to women's health and effectively mental health as well. There is much involved in needle insertion, which includes risk reduction for pneumothorax or nerve damages.

Our state's Physical Therapist's are a value to our community. Opening them up to lawsuits and litigation for poorly administered vaccines or unintended injury due to needle placement and depth errors is an unnecessary risk to their profession in Oregon.

I request HB3824 is denied at this time, allowing for more consideration on the impact to Oregonians and the level of oversight the Physical Therapist's are willing to give to the Oregon Medical Board with regards to practicing medicine and the training required to do so in our great state.

Respectfully,

Mandi Schwendiman