

Submitter: Johanna Givens

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

There are numerous reasons why the practice of acupuncture should stay excluded to those that have been specifically trained and passed the national board of acupuncture, however, I will outline just a few.

* The art and practice of acupuncture has been developing and evolving for thousands of years and cannot be safely and appropriately summarized in a short class or course.

* The appropriation of a culture and medical practice by another field specifically for an increase in profit opportunity is grievous and unnecessary when the field of physical therapy already has a wheelhouse of tools appropriate for their purpose.

* The approval of this measure would infringe significantly on the ability for acupuncturists state wide to continue their field and purpose in a way that allows them to financially support themselves, meet the requirements of continued education, and still bring quality care to patients.

* To approve this measure would increase risk of harm to patients and especially considering that the general public may not be aware of the vast amount of difference that goes into the training of an acupuncturist vs the training provided to a physical therapist wanting to do acupuncture techniques.