

Submitter: Armand Slaton

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

I am here in opposition to HB 3824, specifically the inclusion of “needle insertion” in the physical therapy scope of practice.

I am someone that has benefited greatly from acupuncture, and knowing that my provider was trained with all the required hours, passed the required exams, and is officially licensed gave me a sense of safety and peace during the treatment.

In Oregon, acupuncture may only be practiced by those licensed by the Oregon Medical Board under ORS 677.759. Unauthorized practice of acupuncture—including any unlicensed needle insertion—is considered the unauthorized practice of medicine under ORS 677.765 and is subject to penalties.

This bill therefore directly conflicts with established state law by proposing to allow non-OMB-regulated practitioners (physical therapists) to perform a procedure that falls squarely within the legal definition of acupuncture.