



Sen. Emil Jones, III

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10200SB1078sam001

LRB102 04893 SPS 24048 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 1078

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend Senate Bill 1078 by replacing  
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Illinois Physical Therapy Act is amended  
5 by changing Sections 1, 1.2, and 1.5 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 90/1) (from Ch. 111, par. 4251)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2026)

8 Sec. 1. Definitions. As used in this Act:

9 (1) "Physical therapy" means all of the following:

10 (A) Examining, evaluating, and testing individuals who  
11 may have mechanical, physiological, or developmental  
12 impairments, functional limitations, disabilities, or  
13 other health and movement-related conditions, classifying  
14 these disorders, determining a rehabilitation prognosis  
15 and plan of therapeutic intervention, and assessing the  
16 ongoing effects of the interventions.

1 (B) Alleviating impairments, functional limitations,  
2 or disabilities by designing, implementing, and modifying  
3 therapeutic interventions that may include, but are not  
4 limited to, the evaluation or treatment of a person  
5 through the use of the effective properties of physical  
6 measures and heat, cold, light, water, radiant energy,  
7 electricity, sound, and air and use of therapeutic  
8 massage, therapeutic exercise, mobilization, dry needling,  
9 and rehabilitative procedures, with or without assistive  
10 devices, for the purposes of preventing, correcting, or  
11 alleviating a physical or mental impairment, functional  
12 limitation, or disability.

13 (C) Reducing the risk of injury, impairment,  
14 functional limitation, or disability, including the  
15 promotion and maintenance of fitness, health, and  
16 wellness.

17 (D) Engaging in administration, consultation,  
18 education, and research.

19 "Physical therapy" includes, but is not limited to: (a)  
20 performance of specialized tests and measurements, (b)  
21 administration of specialized treatment procedures, (c)  
22 interpretation of referrals from physicians, dentists,  
23 advanced practice registered nurses, physician assistants, and  
24 podiatric physicians, (d) establishment, and modification of  
25 physical therapy treatment programs, (e) administration of  
26 topical medication used in generally accepted physical therapy

1 procedures when such medication is either prescribed by the  
2 patient's physician, licensed to practice medicine in all its  
3 branches, the patient's physician licensed to practice  
4 podiatric medicine, the patient's advanced practice registered  
5 nurse, the patient's physician assistant, or the patient's  
6 dentist or used following the physician's orders or written  
7 instructions, (f) supervision or teaching of physical therapy,  
8 and (g) dry needling or intramuscular manual therapy ~~in~~  
9 ~~accordance with Section 1.5~~. "Physical therapy" does not  
10 include radiology, electrosurgery, acupuncture, chiropractic  
11 technique or determination of a differential diagnosis;  
12 provided, however, the limitation on determining a  
13 differential diagnosis shall not in any manner limit a  
14 physical therapist licensed under this Act from performing an  
15 evaluation and establishing a physical therapy treatment plan  
16 pursuant to such license. Nothing in this Section shall limit  
17 a physical therapist from employing appropriate physical  
18 therapy techniques that he or she is educated and licensed to  
19 perform.

20 (2) "Physical therapist" means a person who practices  
21 physical therapy and who has met all requirements as provided  
22 in this Act.

23 (3) "Department" means the Department of Professional  
24 Regulation.

25 (4) "Director" means the Director of Professional  
26 Regulation.

1           (5) "Board" means the Physical Therapy Licensing and  
2           Disciplinary Board approved by the Director.

3           (6) "Referral" means a written or oral authorization for  
4           physical therapy services for a patient by a physician,  
5           dentist, advanced practice registered nurse, physician  
6           assistant, or podiatric physician who maintains medical  
7           supervision of the patient and makes a diagnosis or verifies  
8           that the patient's condition is such that it may be treated by  
9           a physical therapist.

10          (7) (Blank).

11          (8) "State" includes:

12                 (a) the states of the United States of America;

13                 (b) the District of Columbia; and

14                 (c) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

15          (9) "Physical therapist assistant" means a person licensed  
16          to assist a physical therapist and who has met all  
17          requirements as provided in this Act and who works under the  
18          supervision of a licensed physical therapist to assist in  
19          implementing the physical therapy treatment program as  
20          established by the licensed physical therapist. The patient  
21          care activities provided by the physical therapist assistant  
22          shall not include the interpretation of referrals, evaluation  
23          procedures, or the planning or major modification of patient  
24          programs.

25          (10) "Physical therapy aide" means a person who has  
26          received on the job training, specific to the facility in

1 which he is employed.

2 (11) "Advanced practice registered nurse" means a person  
3 licensed as an advanced practice registered nurse under the  
4 Nurse Practice Act.

5 (12) "Physician assistant" means a person licensed under  
6 the Physician Assistant Practice Act of 1987.

7 (13) "Health care professional" means a physician,  
8 dentist, podiatric physician, advanced practice registered  
9 nurse, or physician assistant.

10 (Source: P.A. 99-173, eff. 7-29-15; 99-229, eff. 8-3-15;  
11 99-642, eff. 7-28-16; 100-201, eff. 8-18-17; 100-418, eff.  
12 8-25-17; 100-513, eff. 1-1-18; 100-863, eff. 8-14-18; 100-897,  
13 eff. 8-16-18.)

14 (225 ILCS 90/1.2)

15 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2026)

16 Sec. 1.2. Physical therapy services.

17 (a) A physical therapist may provide physical therapy  
18 services to a patient with or without a referral from a health  
19 care professional.

20 (b) A physical therapist providing services without a  
21 referral from a health care professional must notify the  
22 patient's treating health care professional within 5 business  
23 days after the patient's first visit that the patient is  
24 receiving physical therapy. This does not apply to physical  
25 therapy services related to fitness or wellness, unless the

1 patient presents with an ailment or injury.

2 (c) A physical therapist shall refer a patient to the  
3 patient's treating health care professional of record or, in  
4 the case where there is no health care professional of record,  
5 to a health care professional of the patient's choice, if:

6 (1) the patient does not demonstrate measurable or  
7 functional improvement after 10 visits or 15 business  
8 days, whichever occurs first, and continued improvement  
9 thereafter;

10 (2) the patient was under the care of a physical  
11 therapist without a diagnosis established by a health care  
12 professional and returns for services for the same or  
13 similar condition after 30 calendar days of being  
14 discharged by the physical therapist; or

15 (3) the patient's condition, at the time of evaluation  
16 or services, is determined to be beyond the scope of  
17 practice of the physical therapist.

18 (d) Wound debridement services may only be provided by a  
19 physical therapist with written authorization from a health  
20 care professional.

21 (e) A physical therapist shall promptly consult and  
22 collaborate with the appropriate health care professional  
23 anytime a patient's condition indicates that it may be related  
24 to temporomandibular disorder so that a diagnosis can be made  
25 by that health care professional for an appropriate treatment  
26 plan.

1 (Source: P.A. 100-897, eff. 8-16-18.)

2 (225 ILCS 90/1.5)

3 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2026)

4 Sec. 1.5. Dry needling.

5 (a) For the purpose of this Act, "dry needling", also  
6 known as intramuscular manual therapy, means an advanced  
7 needling skill or technique limited to the treatment of  
8 myofascial pain, using a single use, single insertion, sterile  
9 filiform needle (without the use of heat, cold, or any other  
10 added modality or medication), that is inserted into the skin  
11 or underlying tissues to stimulate trigger points. Dry  
12 needling may apply theory based only upon Western medical  
13 concepts, requires an examination and diagnosis, and treats  
14 specific anatomic entities selected according to physical  
15 signs. Dry needling does not include the teaching or  
16 application of acupuncture described by the stimulation of  
17 auricular points, utilization of distal points or non-local  
18 points, needle retention, application of retained electric  
19 stimulation leads, or ~~the teaching or application of~~ other  
20 acupuncture theory.

21 (b) A physical therapist licensed under this Act may only  
22 perform dry needling under ~~the following~~ conditions as  
23 determined by the Department by rule. ÷

24 ~~(1) Prior to completion of the education under~~  
25 ~~paragraph (2) of this subsection, successful completion of~~

1 ~~50 hours of instruction in the following areas:~~

2 ~~(A) the musculoskeletal and neuromuscular system;~~

3 ~~(B) the anatomical basis of pain mechanisms,~~  
4 ~~chronic pain, and referred pain;~~

5 ~~(C) myofascial trigger point theory; and~~

6 ~~(D) universal precautions.~~

7 ~~(2) Completion of at least 30 hours of didactic course~~  
8 ~~work specific to dry needling.~~

9 ~~(3) Successful completion of at least 54 practicum~~  
10 ~~hours in dry needling course work approved by the~~  
11 ~~Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy or its~~  
12 ~~successor (or substantial equivalent), as determined by~~  
13 ~~the Department. Each instructional course shall specify~~  
14 ~~what anatomical regions are included in the instruction~~  
15 ~~and describe whether the course offers introductory or~~  
16 ~~advanced instruction in dry needling. Each instruction~~  
17 ~~course shall include the following areas:~~

18 ~~(A) dry needling technique;~~

19 ~~(B) dry needling indications and~~  
20 ~~contraindications;~~

21 ~~(C) documentation of dry needling;~~

22 ~~(D) management of adverse effects;~~

23 ~~(E) practical psychomotor competency; and~~

24 ~~(F) the Occupational Safety and Health~~  
25 ~~Administration's Bloodborne Pathogens standard.~~

26 ~~Postgraduate classes qualifying for completion of the~~



1 ~~mandated 54 hours of dry needling shall be in one or more~~  
2 ~~modules, with the initial module being no fewer than 27~~  
3 ~~hours, and therapists shall complete at least 54 hours in~~  
4 ~~no more than 12 months.~~

5 ~~(4) Completion of at least 200 patient treatment~~  
6 ~~sessions under supervision as determined by the Department~~  
7 ~~by rule.~~

8 ~~(5) Successful completion of a competency examination~~  
9 ~~as approved by the Department.~~

10 ~~Each licensee is responsible for maintaining records of~~  
11 ~~the completion of the requirements of this subsection (b) and~~  
12 ~~shall be prepared to produce such records upon request by the~~  
13 ~~Department.~~

14 ~~(c) (Blank). A newly licensed physical therapist shall not~~  
15 ~~practice dry needling for at least one year from the date of~~  
16 ~~initial licensure unless the practitioner can demonstrate~~  
17 ~~compliance with subsection (b) through his or her~~  
18 ~~pre licensure educational coursework.~~

19 ~~(d) (Blank). Dry needling may only be performed by a~~  
20 ~~licensed physical therapist and may not be delegated to a~~  
21 ~~physical therapist assistant or support personnel.~~

22 ~~(e) (Blank). A physical therapist shall not advertise,~~  
23 ~~describe to patients or the public, or otherwise represent~~  
24 ~~that dry needling is acupuncture, nor shall he or she~~  
25 ~~represent that he or she practices acupuncture unless~~  
26 ~~separately licensed under the Acupuncture Practice Act.~~

1 (Source: P.A. 100-418, eff. 8-25-17.)".