

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 505

BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO PHYSICAL THERAPY; AMENDING CHAPTER 22, TITLE 54, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 54-2225, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR THE PRACTICE OF DRY NEEDLING BY A PHYSICAL THERAPIST AND TO AUTHORIZE RULE-MAKING; AND AMENDING SECTION 54-2203, IDAHO CODE, TO DEFINE A TERM AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Chapter 22, Title 54, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and designated as Section 54-2225, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

54-2225. PRACTICE OF DRY NEEDLING. (1) A physical therapist may perform dry needling, as defined in section 54-2203, Idaho Code, if the physical therapist has successfully completed minimum education and training requirements as determined by the board from a course in dry needling approved by the federation of state boards of physical therapy or another nationally recognized accrediting body of physical therapy that is approved by the board.

(2) The board shall have the power to promulgate rules that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

SECTION 2. That Section 54-2203, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

54-2203. DEFINITIONS. As used in this chapter:

(1) "Applicant" means a person applying for a license or permit under this chapter.

(2) "Board" means the Idaho physical therapy licensure board.

(3) "Bureau" means the bureau of occupational licenses.

(4) "Department" means the department of self-governing agencies.

(5) "Dry needling" means a skilled intervention performed by a physical therapist that uses a thin filiform needle to penetrate the skin and stimulate underlying neural, muscular and connective tissues for the evaluation and management of neuromusculoskeletal conditions, pain and movement impairments.

(6) "License" means a document issued by the board to a person under this chapter authorizing the person to practice as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant.

(7) "Physical therapist" means a person licensed under the provisions of this chapter to engage in the practice of physical therapy.

(8) "Physical therapist assistant" means a person who meets the requirements of this chapter and who performs physical therapy procedures and

1 related tasks that have been selected and delegated only by a supervising
2 physical therapist.

3 (~~89~~) "Physical therapy" means the care and services provided by or un-
4 der the direction and supervision of a physical therapist.

5 (~~910~~) The "pPractice of physical therapy" means the exercise of the
6 profession of physical therapy by a person who engages in the following
7 health care activities:

8 (a) Examining, evaluating and testing individuals with mechanical,
9 physiological and developmental impairments, functional limitations,
10 and disability or other health and movement-related conditions in or-
11 der to determine a diagnosis for physical therapy and prognosis for
12 physical therapy, plan of therapeutic intervention, and to assess the
13 ongoing effects of intervention-;

14 (b) Alleviating impairments and functional limitations by designing,
15 implementing and modifying therapeutic interventions that include,
16 but are not limited to: therapeutic exercise; functional mobility
17 training in self-care and in-home, community or work reintegration;
18 manual therapy; assistive, adaptive, protective and supportive de-
19 vices and equipment; bronchopulmonary hygiene; debridement and wound
20 care; physical agents or modalities; mechanical and electrotherapeutic
21 modalities; and patient-related instruction; and to reduce the risk of
22 injury, impairment, functional limitation, and disability, including
23 the promotion and maintenance of fitness, health, and quality of life in
24 all age populations. The practice of physical therapy shall not include
25 the use of radiology, surgery or medical diagnosis of disease-; and

26 (c) Engaging in administration, consultation, testing, education and
27 research as related to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection.

28 (~~101~~) "Supportive personnel" means a person or persons trained under
29 the direction of a physical therapist who performs designated and supervised
30 routine physical therapy tasks.