

2024 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 170

BY SENATOR MCMATH

PHYSICAL THERAPISTS. Provides relative to physical therapists. (8/1/24)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 37:2403(B), (C), and (F), 2405(B)(11), 2406(B), 2407, 2409, 2411, 2412, 2413(B), 2416, 2418, 2419(B), (C), and (D), the introductory paragraph of 2420(A) and 2420(A)(1) and (7), and 2422(A) and to enact R.S. 37:2405(B)(16) and (17) and 2421(C), relative to physical therapists; to provide relative to the Louisiana Physical Therapy Board; to provide for board composition; to provide for powers and duties of the board; to provide for confidentiality; to provide for definitions; to provide for qualifications for licenses; to provide for licensure endorsement; to provide for emergency exemptions; to provide for restrictions on use of certain titles; to provide for disciplinary actions; to provide for violations and penalties; to provide for cease and desist orders; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 37:2403(B), (C), and (F), 2405(B)(11), 2406(B), 2407, 2409, 2411, 2412, 2413(B), 2416, 2418, 2419(B), (C), and (D), the introductory paragraph of 2420(A) and 2420(A)(1) and (7), and 2422(A) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 37:2405(B)(16) and (17) and 2421(C) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2403. Physical therapy board; composition

\* \* \*

B. The board shall consist of eight members who shall be appointed by the governor as follows:

(1) ~~Two~~ **Five** members shall be physical therapists who possess an unrestricted license to practice physical therapy and who have been practicing in the state for no less than three years.

~~(2) One member shall be a physical therapist who possesses an unrestricted license to practice physical therapy and has been practicing in the state for no less than three years and shall be appointed from a list of names submitted by the Louisiana Hospital Association.~~

~~(3) Two members shall be physical therapists who possess an unrestricted license to practice physical therapy and have been practicing in the state for no less than three years and shall be appointed from a list of names submitted by the Louisiana Physical Therapy Association.~~

~~(4) One member~~ **Two members** shall be a physical therapist assistant **assistants** who ~~possesses~~ **possess** an unrestricted license to assist in the practice of physical therapy as a physical therapist assistant and who ~~has~~ **have** been practicing in the state for no less than three years.

~~(5) One member shall be a physician who possesses an unrestricted license to practice medicine in the state and who specializes in the practice of orthopedic surgery or the practice of physiatry and shall be appointed from a list of names submitted by the Louisiana State Medical Society.~~

~~(6)~~**(3)** One member shall be a consumer selected from the state at large. The consumer member may also apply directly to the office of the governor.

C. The term of each board member shall be ~~three~~ **four** years; however, initial board appointments may be for less than ~~three~~ **four** years in order to establish staggered terms. Each appointment by the governor shall be submitted to the Senate for confirmation.

\* \* \*

1 F. ~~No person shall be appointed to the board if they have served for more~~  
2 ~~than two consecutive three-year terms.~~ **Board members shall serve no more than**  
3 **two consecutive four-year terms or for no more than ten consecutive years.**

4 \* \* \*

5 §2405. Powers and duties of the board; limitation

6 \* \* \*

7 B. The board may:

8 \* \* \*

9 (11) Require that all costs of board proceedings ~~relating to~~ **for a hearing**  
10 **related to the issuance or denial of application for licensure or** a specific  
11 disciplinary case, including the members' per diem and expenses, the cost of  
12 investigators, stenographers, attorney fees, and other reasonably associated costs be  
13 reimbursed to the board as a part of a consent order or board decision in that  
14 proceeding.

15 \* \* \*

16 **(16) Have the authority to purchase, lease, maintain, or otherwise**  
17 **contract with respect to immovable property and improvements thereon as it**  
18 **may deem necessary or appropriate to accomplish the provisions of this Part.**  
19 **Additionally, the board shall have the authority to borrow funds with the**  
20 **approval of the State Bond Commission and to expend funds of the board for**  
21 **the acquisition of immovable property and improvements thereon. In the event**  
22 **that the board sells immovable property and improvements thereon, the**  
23 **revenue derived from the sale shall be retained by the board and shall not be**  
24 **subject to reversion to the state general fund.**

25 **(17) Issue administrative fines to licensees for violations of this Chapter**  
26 **or rules promulgated by the board.**

27 \* \* \*

28 §2406. Immunity from personal liability; boards and others; confidentiality

29 \* \* \*

1           B. ~~Information or reports concerning or relating to improper conduct by or~~  
2 ~~the impairment of a licensed physical therapist or physical therapist assistant~~  
3 ~~provided to the board or gathered by the board through investigation, including in~~  
4 ~~compliance with the provisions of R.S. 37:1745.14, shall be, in accordance with the~~  
5 ~~provisions of R.S. 37:1745.15, confidential. **All records, writings, accounts,**~~  
6 ~~**recordings, letters, exhibits, pictures, drawings, charts, photographs, or copies**~~  
7 ~~**thereof, and any report, examinations, evaluations, or any other information or**~~  
8 ~~**data gathered by the board through investigation concerning the fitness of any**~~  
9 ~~**person to receive or continue to hold a license to practice physical therapy or**~~  
10 ~~**the discipline of such individual, in the custody or control of the Louisiana**~~  
11 ~~**Physical Therapy Board, and information received in compliance with R.S.**~~  
12 ~~**37:1745.14, is confidential, and is not a public record. However, any final action**~~  
13 ~~**taken by the board relative to the fitness of any person to receive or to continue**~~  
14 ~~**to hold a license to practice physical therapy may be released to the public.**~~

15 §2407. Practice of physical therapy defined

16           A. When used in this Chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the  
17 following meaning, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

18           (1) ~~"Initial physical therapy evaluation" means the physical therapy~~  
19 ~~assessment and resulting interpretation of a patient's condition through use of patient~~  
20 ~~history, signs, symptoms, objective tests, or measurements to determine~~  
21 ~~neuromusculoskeletal and biomechanical dysfunctions to determine the need for~~  
22 ~~physical therapy. The conclusions of such initial physical therapy evaluation may be~~  
23 ~~reported to the patient and may be used to establish treatment goals. The results of~~  
24 ~~an initial physical therapy evaluation or physical therapy consultation shall be~~  
25 ~~reported to the referring or treating physician, dentist, chiropractor, or podiatrist.~~

26           (2) "Physical therapist" includes equally physiotherapist, physical therapist,  
27 and P.T. and is a person who is a graduate of an accredited school of physical  
28 therapy, which school, at the time of graduation was approved by the Commission  
29 on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education or the board and who practices

1 physical therapy as defined in this Chapter.

2 ~~(3)~~**(2)** "Physical therapist assistant" includes equally physical therapist  
3 assistant, physiotherapist assistant, and P.T.A., and is a person who is a graduate of  
4 an accredited school of physical therapist assisting, which school, at the time of  
5 graduation, was approved by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy  
6 Education or the board. A physical therapist assistant assists in the practice of  
7 physical therapy in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter, and works under  
8 the supervision of a physical therapist by performing such patient-related activities  
9 assigned by a physical therapist which are commensurate with the physical therapist  
10 assistant's education, training, and experience.

11 ~~(4)~~**(3)** "Physical therapy", noun and adjective, means equally physiotherapy  
12 and physical therapy.

13 **(4) "Physical therapy evaluation" means the physical therapy assessment**  
14 **and resulting interpretation of a patient's condition through use of patient**  
15 **history, signs, symptoms, objective tests, or measurements to determine**  
16 **neuromusculoskeletal and biomechanical dysfunctions, physiological and**  
17 **developmental impairments, functional limitations, and disabilities or other**  
18 **health and movement related conditions to determine a diagnosis, prognosis,**  
19 **and a plan of intervention, and to assess the ongoing effects of intervention and**  
20 **the need for physical therapy. The conclusions of the physical therapy**  
21 **evaluation may be reported to the patient and may be used to establish**  
22 **treatment goals. The results of an initial physical therapy evaluation or physical**  
23 **therapy consultation may be reported to a referring provider.**

24 (5) "Practice of physical therapy" is the health care profession practiced by  
25 a physical therapist licensed under this Chapter and means the holding out of one's  
26 self to the public as a physical therapist and as being engaged in the business of, or  
27 the actual engagement in, the evaluation and treatment of any physical or medical  
28 condition **using physical or mechanical means, digital health solutions, or devices**  
29 **for preventative, therapeutic, or medical purposes. This also includes physical**

1 therapy evaluation, treatment planning, instruction, consultative services,  
2 determination of causation, and the supervision of physical therapy supportive  
3 personnel and referring a patient to healthcare providers and facilities for  
4 services and testing to inform the physical therapist plan of care. The practice  
5 of physical therapy is intended to restore optimal function of movement and  
6 cardiovascular, pulmonary, neurological, musculoskeletal, integumentary,  
7 lymphatic, and metabolic systems across a person's lifespan. The practice of  
8 physical therapy also includes alleviating pain, alleviating and reducing the risk  
9 of functional impairments, movement limitations, disease, and disabilities, and  
10 promoting optimum health and longevity. ~~to restore normal function of the~~  
11 ~~neuromuscular and skeletal system, to relieve pain, or to prevent disability by use of~~  
12 ~~physical or mechanical means, including therapeutic exercise, mobilization, passive~~  
13 ~~manipulation, therapeutic modalities, and activities or devices for preventative,~~  
14 ~~therapeutic, or medical purposes, and further shall include physical therapy~~  
15 ~~evaluation, treatment planning, instruction, consultative services, and the supervision~~  
16 ~~of physical therapy supportive personnel, including physical therapist assistants.~~

17 B.(1) As used in this Chapter, "physical therapy" does not include the use of  
18 roentgen rays and radium, isotopes, and ionizing radiation for diagnostic and  
19 therapeutic purposes.

20 (2) While physical therapists shall not directly perform or administer  
21 x-rays, computerized axial tomography, nuclear magnetic resonance, and  
22 nuclear magnetic imaging, nothing shall be construed to prohibit a physical  
23 therapist from ordering such diagnostic procedures when considered necessary  
24 by the physical therapist. However, the authority to order such diagnostic tests  
25 shall not be construed as to mandate coverage for such tests ordered by a  
26 physical therapist under any health care plan or policy of insurance, to require  
27 such coverage under any such plan or policy, or to circumvent any requirement  
28 for preauthorization for covered services by a primary care physician or  
29 precertification by an insurer or administrator of a plan or policy in accordance

1 **with the terms of a health care plan or policy.**

2 C. ~~In seeking and receiving reimbursement for services, an initial physical~~  
3 ~~therapy evaluation as defined in this Chapter shall be considered a physical therapy~~  
4 ~~diagnosis and shall not constitute the practice of medicine.~~

5 ~~D.~~ Words used in one gender apply also to the other, except as otherwise  
6 clearly indicated by the context.

7 \* \* \*

8 §2409. Qualifications for license; physical therapists

9 To qualify for a license as a physical therapist, an applicant shall:

10 (1) ~~Be at least twenty-one years of age.~~

11 ~~(2)~~ **(2)** Be a citizen of the United States or have obtained legal authority to work  
12 in the United States, and have proper documentation evidencing this fact.

13 ~~(3)~~ **(2)** Be of good moral character.

14 ~~(4)~~ **(3)** Have paid all fees required by this Chapter.

15 ~~(5)~~ **(4)** Have graduated from a school of physical therapy, which school, at the  
16 time of such graduation, was approved by ~~the Commission on Accreditation in~~  
17 ~~Physical Therapy Education~~ or the board.

18 ~~(6)~~ **(5)** Pass an examination to the satisfaction of the board as provided for in  
19 R.S. 37:2414.

20 \* \* \*

21 §2411. Qualifications for license; physical therapist assistant

22 To be qualified for a license as a physical therapist assistant, an applicant  
23 shall:

24 (1) ~~Be at least nineteen years of age.~~

25 ~~(2)~~ Be of good moral character.

26 ~~(3)~~ **(2)** Have paid all fees required by this Chapter.

27 ~~(4)~~ **(3)** Have graduated from an accredited school of physical therapist  
28 assisting, which school, at the time of such graduation, was approved by ~~the~~  
29 ~~Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education~~ or the board. ~~However,~~

1 ~~the board shall not require an applicant to have completed a course of training in~~  
2 ~~excess of that required for an associate degree.~~

3 ~~(5)~~**(4)** Pass an examination to the satisfaction of the board as provided for in  
4 R.S. 37:2414.

5 \* \* \*

6 §2412. License ~~reciprocity~~ **endorsement**

7 In its discretion, the board may waive examination, and may license an  
8 applicant who is licensed and in good standing under the laws of another state,  
9 territory, or district, if the requirements for licensing of physical therapists or  
10 physical therapist assistants ~~were, at the date of licensing therein,~~ **are** substantially  
11 equal to the requirements ~~then or subsequently in force~~ in Louisiana, and if the state,  
12 territory, or district from whence the applicant comes accords a similar licensing  
13 privilege without examination to licensees under this Chapter.

14 §2413. Application for license

15 \* \* \*

16 B. In order to determine an applicant's suitability for licensing, the board may  
17 require applicants for ~~initial~~ licensure to furnish a full set of fingerprints to facilitate  
18 a criminal background investigation. The board shall submit it to the Federal Bureau  
19 of Investigation for a national criminal history background check. The Louisiana  
20 State Police shall report the result of the criminal history background check to the  
21 board which may use that information to determine the applicant's moral character  
22 and suitability for licensing.

23 \* \* \*

24 §2416. Emergency exemptions

25 No license is required by this Chapter under the following circumstances:

26 (1) A physical therapist **or physical therapist assistant** who is licensed in  
27 a jurisdiction of the United States and who enters this state to provide physical  
28 therapy during a declared local, state, or national disaster or emergency. This  
29 exemption applies for no longer than ~~sixty~~ **ninety** days following the declaration of



1 the emergency. In order to be eligible for this exemption the physical therapist shall  
2 notify the board of his intent to practice within the state.

3 (2) A physical therapist **or physical therapist assistant** licensed in a  
4 jurisdiction of the United States who is forced to leave his residence or place of  
5 employment due to a declared local, state, or national disaster or emergency and as  
6 a result of such displacement seeks to practice physical therapy. This exemption  
7 applies for no more than ~~sixty~~ **ninety** days following the declaration of the  
8 emergency. In order to be eligible for this exemption the physical therapist shall  
9 notify the board of his intent to practice within the state.

10 ~~(3) A physical therapist assistant who is licensed in a jurisdiction of the~~  
11 ~~United States and is assisting a physical therapist engaged specifically in activities~~  
12 ~~related to Paragraphs (1) and (2) of this Section.~~

13 \* \* \*

14 §2418. Authority to practice as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant

15 A. A physical therapist or physical therapist assistant licensed in Louisiana  
16 is authorized to practice physical therapy as defined in this Chapter. A physical  
17 therapist is responsible for managing all aspects of the physical therapy care of each  
18 patient.

19 ~~B.(1) Without prescription or referral, a physical therapist may perform an~~  
20 ~~initial evaluation or consultation of a screening nature to determine the need for~~  
21 ~~physical therapy and may perform physical therapy or other services provided in~~  
22 ~~Subsection C of this Section.~~

23 ~~(2)(a) For the treatment of a condition within the scope of physical therapy,~~  
24 ~~other than under the circumstances provided for in Subsection C of this Section, a~~  
25 **A** physical therapist may ~~implement~~ **initiate and deliver** physical therapy ~~treatment~~  
26 ~~with or~~ **services** without a prescription or referral **from another healthcare**  
27 **practitioner.** ~~of a person licensed to practice medicine, surgery, dentistry, podiatry,~~  
28 ~~or chiropractic if the physical therapist meets one of the following criteria:~~

29 (i) ~~The physical therapist has a doctorate degree in physical therapy from an~~

1           ~~accredited institution.~~

2                   (ii) ~~The physical therapist has five years of licensed clinical practice~~  
3 ~~experience.~~

4                   (b) ~~If, after thirty calendar days of implementing physical therapy treatment~~  
5 ~~pursuant to this Paragraph, the patient has not made measurable or functional~~  
6 ~~improvement, the physical therapist shall refer the patient to an appropriate~~  
7 ~~healthcare provider. The board shall take appropriate disciplinary action against any~~  
8 ~~physical therapist who fails to refer a patient pursuant to this Paragraph.~~

9                   (3) ~~No physical therapist shall render a medical diagnosis of a disease.~~

10                  (4)(a) ~~The provisions of this Section shall not be construed to have any effect~~  
11 ~~on the provisions of R.S. 23:1121 or 1203.1.~~

12                  (b) ~~The provisions of this Section shall not be construed to have any effect~~  
13 ~~on the monetary limit provided for in R.S. 23:1142.~~

14                  C. Physical therapy services ~~may be performed without a prescription or~~  
15 ~~referral~~ **shall not be construed to mandate coverage for physical therapy services**  
16 **under any health care plan, insurance policy, or workers' compensation plan or**  
17 **circumvent any requirement for preauthorization of services in accordance with**  
18 **any health care plan, insurance policy, or workers' compensation plan.** ~~under~~  
19 ~~any of the following circumstances:~~

20                   (1) ~~To a child with a diagnosed developmental disability pursuant to the~~  
21 ~~child's plan of care.~~

22                   (2) ~~To a patient of a home health care agency pursuant to the patient's plan~~  
23 ~~of care.~~

24                   (3) ~~To a patient in a nursing home pursuant to the patient's plan of care.~~

25                   (4) ~~Related to conditioning or to providing education or activities in a~~  
26 ~~wellness setting for the purpose of injury prevention, reduction of stress, or~~  
27 ~~promotion of fitness.~~

28                   (5) ~~To an individual for a previously diagnosed condition or conditions for~~  
29 ~~which physical therapy services are appropriate after informing the health care~~

1 ~~provider rendering the diagnosis. The diagnosis shall have been made within the~~  
2 ~~previous ninety days. The physical therapist shall provide the health care provider~~  
3 ~~who rendered such diagnosis with a plan of care for physical therapy services within~~  
4 ~~the first fifteen days of physical therapy intervention.~~

5 ~~D. Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to create liability of any kind~~  
6 ~~for the health care provider rendering the diagnosis pursuant to Paragraph (C)(5) of~~  
7 ~~this Section for a condition, illness, or injury that manifested itself after such~~  
8 ~~diagnosis or for any alleged damages as a result of physical therapy services~~  
9 ~~performed without a prescription or referral from a person licensed to practice~~  
10 ~~medicine, surgery, dentistry, podiatry, or chiropractic.~~

11 ~~E. Physical therapy services performed without a prescription or referral from~~  
12 ~~a person licensed to practice medicine, surgery, dentistry, podiatry, or chiropractic~~  
13 ~~shall not be construed to mandate coverage for physical therapy services under any~~  
14 ~~health care plan, insurance policy, or workers' compensation plan or circumvent any~~  
15 ~~requirement for preauthorization of services in accordance with any health care plan,~~  
16 ~~insurance policy, or workers' compensation plan.~~

17 ~~F.(1) A person licensed under this Chapter as a physical therapist assistant~~  
18 ~~shall perform treatments only under the direction and supervision of a licensed~~  
19 ~~physical therapist. The duties assigned to the physical therapist assistant shall be~~  
20 ~~commensurate with the physical therapist assistant's education, training, and~~  
21 ~~experience.~~

22 ~~(2) Notwithstanding any provision of law or rule to the contrary, the~~  
23 ~~supervision requirements of a physical therapist assistant shall only be the following:~~

24 ~~(a) It is the responsibility of each physical therapist to determine the number~~  
25 ~~of physical therapist assistants he can supervise safely; however, in no case shall the~~  
26 ~~number of individuals supervised by a physical therapist exceed five individuals, nor~~  
27 ~~exceed the following limitations as to supervised personnel:~~

28 ~~(i) No more than four physical therapist assistants or technicians or any~~  
29 ~~combination thereof.~~

1                   (ii) ~~No more than two provisional licensees.~~

2                   (iii) ~~No more than five students.~~

3                   (b) ~~A supervising physical therapist is responsible for and shall participate~~  
4 ~~in the patient's care.~~

5                   (c) ~~A supervising physical therapist shall be readily accessible by beeper or~~  
6 ~~telephone and available to the patient by the next scheduled treatment session upon~~  
7 ~~request of the patient or physical therapist assistant.~~

8                   (d) ~~A physical therapist assistant's duties shall not include interpretation or~~  
9 ~~implementation of referrals or prescriptions, performance of evaluations, or the~~  
10 ~~determination or major modification of treatment programs.~~

11                  (e) ~~A supervising physical therapist shall hold documented conferences with~~  
12 ~~the physical therapist assistant regarding the patient. The physical therapist is~~  
13 ~~responsible for determining the frequency of the conferences consistent with~~  
14 ~~accepted standards of practice; however, such conferences shall occur at least every~~  
15 ~~sixth treatment day or every thirty days, whichever occurs first.~~

16                  (f) ~~A supervising physical therapist shall treat and reassess the patient at least~~  
17 ~~every sixth treatment day or every thirty days, whichever occurs first.~~

18                  (g) ~~A supervising physical therapist shall treat the patient for his final~~  
19 ~~treatment session when feasible and write a discharge summary.~~

20                  (3) ~~A physical therapist assistant shall in no way hold himself out to be a~~  
21 ~~physical therapist and shall make known to patients his title as a licensed physical~~  
22 ~~therapist assistant.~~

23                  (4) ~~Notwithstanding any rule or regulation to the contrary, for the purposes~~  
24 ~~of supervision of physical therapist assistants by a physical therapist, a nursing home~~  
25 ~~as defined by R.S. 40:2009.2(1) shall not be defined as a place of residence or as a~~  
26 ~~home health setting. Any rule or regulation to the contrary shall be null and void.~~  
27 ~~Supervision requirements for a physical therapist assistant performing treatments in~~  
28 ~~a nursing home shall be consistent regardless of whether the patient is in a skilled or~~  
29 ~~non-skilled nursing bed.~~

1 §2419. Use of titles and terms; restrictions

2 \* \* \*

3 B. No person or business entity, its employees, agents, or representatives  
4 shall use in connection with that person's name or the name or activity of the  
5 business, the words "physical therapy", "physical therapist", "physiotherapy",  
6 "physiotherapist", "physio", "registered physical therapist", "licensed physical  
7 therapist", "doctor of physical therapy", the letters "PT", "DPT", "LPT", "RPT", or  
8 any other words, abbreviations, or insignia indicating or implying directly or  
9 indirectly that physical therapy is provided or supplied, unless such services are  
10 provided by or under the direction of a physical therapist licensed pursuant to this  
11 Chapter.

12 C. No person or business entity shall advertise or otherwise promote another  
13 person, service, or product as being a "physical therapist" or "physiotherapist"  
14 unless the individual so advertised or promoted is licensed as a physical therapist  
15 under this Chapter. No product, service, person, or business entity shall offer,  
16 provide, or bill any other person for "physical therapy" or "physiotherapy" unless the  
17 individual performing those services is licensed pursuant to this Chapter.

18 D. A physical therapist assistant shall use the letters "PTA" immediately  
19 following his name to designate licensure under this Chapter. A physical therapist  
20 assistant shall in no way hold himself out to be a physical therapist and shall  
21 make known to patients his title as a licensed physical therapist assistant.

22 \* \* \*

23 §2420. Disciplinary actions

24 A. After due notice and an opportunity for a hearing, the board may refuse  
25 to license any applicant, or may refuse to renew the license of any person, or may  
26 fine, restrict, suspend, or revoke any license upon proof that the person has:

27 (1) Practiced physical therapy in violation of the provisions of this Chapter,  
28 the rules of the board, or professional standards of practice, or codes of ethics as  
29 adopted by the board.

\* \* \*

(7) ~~Been found guilty of~~ **Engaged directly or indirectly in** unprofessional conduct or sexual misconduct, including but not limited to departure from, or failure to conform to, the minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing physical therapy practice, in which proceeding actual injury to a patient need not be established.

\* \* \*

§2421. Violations; penalties

\* \* \*

**C. In addition to the remedies listed in Subsection B of this Section, any person or legal entity determined by the board to have committed or assisted in the commission of any violation listed in Subsection A of this Section shall be fined by the board not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars. Each violation shall constitute a separate offense, and for additional violations, at the discretion of the board, the person or legal entity may be subject to a fine of not less than five hundred dollars.**

§2422. Cease and desist orders; injunction; attorney fees; costs

A. In addition to or in lieu of the criminal penalties or administrative remedies or sanctions provided in this Chapter or board rule, the board may issue an order to any licensee or other person or entity engaged in any activity, conduct, or practice constituting a violation of any provision of this Chapter or board rule, ~~other than a person holding a license as a health care provider from another Louisiana licensing board;~~ directing such person or entity to forthwith cease and desist from such activity, conduct, or practice. Such order shall be issued in the name of the state of Louisiana, under the official seal of the board. ~~With regard to a person licensed as a health care provider by another Louisiana licensing board, notification of suspected violations of this Chapter or of board rules shall be sent to the director of the board which issued a license to that person for review and response to the Louisiana Physical Therapy Board from that licensing board.~~

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Amanda Trapp.

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SB 170 Original

DIGEST  
2024 Regular Session

McMath

Present law creates the Louisiana Physical Therapy Board and provides for membership of the board.

Proposed law makes changes to the board's membership and increases board terms.

Present law provides for the powers and duties of the board.

Proposed law grants the board certain authority regarding property ownership, management of funds, and administrative fines.

Present law provides for the confidentiality of information or records.

Proposed law specifies the specific information that is confidential.

Present law provides definitions for terms associated with the practice of physical therapy.

Proposed law makes changes to the definitions.

Present law establishes qualifications for licensure for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants.

Proposed law removes the age requirements and removes references to any specific accrediting agency.

Present law provides for license reciprocity.

Proposed law changes terminology and the requirements for licensure.

Present law authorizes the board to require background checks for initial licensure.

Proposed law authorizes the board to require background checks for any applicants.

Present law provides emergency exemptions to physical therapists practicing in Louisiana during a declared disaster or emergency.

Proposed law adds exemptions for physical therapist assistants and increases the exemption from sixty to ninety days.

Present law provides for requirements and limitations regarding practice as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant.

Proposed law removes requirements regarding referral and supervision.

Present law prohibits the use of certain titles associated with physical therapy.

Proposed law adds terms to the list.

Present law provides for disciplinary procedures and actions of the board.

Proposed law changes certain procedures, grants the authority for the board to issue fines, and adds additional reasons the board can pursue disciplinary action.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Amends R.S. 37:2403(B), (C), and (F), 2405(B)(11), 2406(B), 2407, 2409, 2411, 2412, 2413(B), 2416, 2418, 2419(B), (C), and (D), 2420(A)(intro para) and 2420(A)(1) and (7), and 2422(A); adds R.S. 37:2405(B)(16) and (17) and 2421(C))