

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 1064

BY REPRESENTATIVE BROWN

PHYSICAL THERAPISTS: Eliminates restrictions on performance of physical therapy services without a prescription or referral

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 37:2418(B) and to repeal R.S. 37:2418(C) and (D), relative to
3 the practice of physical therapy; to eliminate certain restrictions on performance of
4 physical therapy services; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 37:2418(B) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §2418. Authority to practice as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant

8 * * *

9 B. ~~Without prescription or referral, a physical therapist may perform an~~
10 ~~initial evaluation or consultation of a screening nature to determine the need for~~
11 ~~physical therapy and may perform physical therapy or other services provided in~~
12 ~~Subsection C of this Section. However, implementation of~~ A physical therapist may
13 implement physical therapy treatment ~~shall otherwise be based on the~~ with or
14 without a prescription or referral of a person licensed to practice medicine, surgery,
15 dentistry, podiatry, or chiropractic.

16 * * *

17 Section 2. R.S. 37:2418(C) and (D) are hereby repealed in their entirety.

18 Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
19 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
20 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If

- 1 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
2 effective on the day following such approval.
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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Brown

HB No. 1064

Abstract: Eliminates restrictions on performance of physical therapy services without a prescription or referral.

Present law provides that except under certain circumstances as specified in present law, physical therapy treatment may only be implemented based on the prescription or referral of a person licensed to practice medicine, surgery, dentistry, podiatry, or chiropractic.

Proposed law revises present law to provide that a physical therapist may render physical therapy treatment with or without a type of prescription or referral provided for in present law.

Proposed law retains present law which provides that physical therapy services performed without a prescription or referral from a person licensed to practice medicine, surgery, dentistry, podiatry, or chiropractic shall not be construed as any of the following:

- (1) Mandating coverage for physical therapy services under any health care plan, insurance policy, or workers' compensation plan.
- (2) Circumventing any requirement for preauthorization of services in accordance with any health care plan, insurance policy, or workers' compensation plan.

Proposed law repeals provisions of present law which become inapplicable pursuant to proposed law.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 37:2418(B); Repeals R.S. 37:2418(C) and (D))