

SENATE SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS

SB 291

2016 Regular Session

Mills

KEYWORD AND SUMMARY AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE

HEALTH CARE. Provides for patient access to physical therapy services without a prescription or referral from a physician. (gov sig)

SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO THE SENATE BILL

1. Makes technical changes.
2. Restores provisions authorizing a physical therapist to perform an initial consultation without a prescription or referral.
3. Requires a physical therapist to have a doctorate in physical therapy from an accredited institution plus five years of licensed clinical practice experience in order to implement physical therapy treatment without a prescription or referral for a specific condition not already exempted.
4. Removes fifteen day notice to a provider of implementation of physical therapy treatment.
5. Changes deadline from 30 business days to 30 calendar days for referral to appropriate health care provider.
6. Prohibits a physical therapist from rendering a medical diagnosis of a disease.
7. Restores current provisions authorizing the implementation of physical therapy treatment without a prescription or referral in certain circumstances.

DIGEST OF THE SENATE BILL AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE

DIGEST

SB 291 Reengrossed

2016 Regular Session

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Present law authorizes a physical therapist to perform an initial evaluation or consultation of a screening nature to determine the need for physical therapy without a prescription or referral. Proposed law retains these provisions.

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

Proposed law authorizes a physical therapist to treat a condition within the scope of physical therapy, other than under circumstances already authorized in current law, with or without a prescription or referral of a person licensed to practice medicine, surgery, dentistry, podiatry, or chiropractic if the physical therapist meets one of the following criteria:

- (1) The physical therapist has a doctorate in physical therapy from an accredited institution.
- (2) The physical therapist has five years of licensed clinical practice experience.

Proposed law requires the physical therapist, if after 30 calendar days of implementing physical therapy treatment the patient has not made measurable or functional improvement, to refer the patient to an appropriate healthcare provider.

Proposed law prohibits a physical therapist from rendering a medical diagnosis on a disease.

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

(Amends R.S. 37:2418(B) and (C), 2420(B) and (C))

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