

2016 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 291

BY SENATORS MILLS AND DONAHUE

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

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 authorize implementation of physical therapy
4 services in certain circumstances; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for
5 related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

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

8 §2418. Authority to practice as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant

9 * * *

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

17 * * *

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 R.S. 37:2418(C) and (D) are hereby repealed in their entirety.

2 Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
3 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
4 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
5 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
6 effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Christine Arbo Peck.

DIGEST

SB 291 Original 2016 Regular Session Mills

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

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

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