

By the Committee on Health Regulation; and Senator Montford

588-03234-12

20121228c1

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to physical therapy; creating ss.  
3           486.0715 and 486.1065, F.S.; authorizing issuance of a  
4           temporary permit to practice as a physical therapist  
5           or physical therapist assistant; providing  
6           requirements for issuing a temporary permit; providing  
7           for voiding of a temporary permit; providing  
8           requirements for the supervision of temporary  
9           permittees; amending s. 486.151, F.S.; prohibiting  
10          certain acts concerning temporary permits; providing  
11          an effective date.

12  
13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

14  
15           Section 1. Section 486.0715, Florida Statutes, is created  
16 to read:

17           486.0715 Physical therapist; issuance of temporary permit.-

18           (1) The board shall issue a temporary physical therapist  
19 permit to an applicant who meets the following requirements:

20           (a) Completes an application for a temporary permit on a  
21 form approved by the department.

22           (b) Meets all the eligibility requirements for licensure  
23 under chapter 456, s. 486.031, and related rules, except passage  
24 of a national examination approved by the board is not required.

25           (c) Submits an application for licensure under s. 486.041.

26           (d) Demonstrates proof of possessing malpractice insurance.

27           (e) Submits documentation, under rules adopted by the  
28 board, verifying that the applicant will practice under the  
29 direct supervision of a licensed physical therapist as provided

588-03234-12

20121228c1

30 in subsection (3).

31 (2) A temporary permit is not renewable and is valid until  
32 a license is granted by the board. A temporary permit is void if  
33 the permittee does not pass or sit for such an examination  
34 within 6 months after the date of graduation from a physical  
35 therapy training program.

36 (3) An applicant for a temporary permit may not work as a  
37 physical therapist until a temporary permit is issued by the  
38 board. A physical therapist who is practicing under a temporary  
39 permit must do so under the direct supervision of a licensed  
40 physical therapist. A supervising physical therapist shall  
41 supervise only one permittee at any given time. The supervising  
42 physical therapist must be licensed for a minimum of 6 months  
43 before the supervision period begins and must cosign all patient  
44 records produced by the physical therapist who is practicing  
45 under a temporary permit.

46 Section 2. Section 486.1065, Florida Statutes, is created  
47 to read:

48 486.1065 Physical therapist assistant; issuance of  
49 temporary permit.-

50 (1) The board shall issue a temporary physical therapist  
51 assistant permit to an applicant who meets the following  
52 requirements:

53 (a) Completes an application for a temporary permit on a  
54 form approved by the department.

55 (b) Meets all the eligibility requirements for licensure  
56 under chapter 456, s. 486.102, and related rules, except passage  
57 of a national examination approved by the board is not required.

58 (c) Submits an application for licensure under s. 486.103.

588-03234-12

20121228c1

59       (d) Demonstrates proof of possessing malpractice insurance.

60       (e) Submits documentation, under rules adopted by the  
61 board, verifying that the applicant will practice under the  
62 direct supervision of a licensed physical therapist as provided  
63 in subsection (3).

64       (2) A temporary permit is not renewable and is valid until  
65 a license is granted by the board. A temporary permit is void if  
66 the permittee does not pass or sit for such an examination  
67 within 6 months after the date of graduation from a physical  
68 therapy assistant training program.

69       (3) An applicant for a temporary permit may not work as a  
70 physical therapist assistant until a temporary permit is issued  
71 by the board. A physical therapist assistant who is practicing  
72 under a temporary permit must do so under the direct supervision  
73 of a licensed physical therapist. A supervising physical  
74 therapist shall supervise only one permittee at any given time.  
75 The supervising physical therapist must be licensed for a  
76 minimum of 6 months before the supervision period begins and  
77 must cosign all patient records produced by the physical  
78 therapist assistant who is practicing under a temporary permit.

79       Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 486.151, Florida  
80 Statutes, is amended to read:

81       486.151 Prohibited acts; penalty.—

82       (1) It is unlawful for any person to:

83       (a) Practice physical therapy or attempt to practice  
84 physical therapy without an active license or temporary permit.

85       (b) Use or attempt to use a license or temporary permit to  
86 practice physical therapy which is suspended, ~~or~~ revoked, or  
87 void.

588-03234-12

20121228c1

88 (c) Obtain or attempt to obtain a license or temporary  
89 permit to practice physical therapy by fraudulent  
90 misrepresentation.

91 (d) Use the name or title "Physical Therapist" or "Physical  
92 Therapist Assistant" or any other name or title which would lead  
93 the public to believe that the person using the name or title is  
94 licensed to practice physical therapy, unless such person holds  
95 a valid license.

96 (e) Make any willfully false oath or affirmation whenever  
97 an oath or affirmation is required by this chapter.

98 (f) Knowingly conceal information relating to violations of  
99 this chapter.

100 Section 4. This act shall take effect June 1, 2012.