

Amendment No.

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N)  
ADOPTED AS AMENDED \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N)  
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N)  
FAILED TO ADOPT \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N)  
WITHDRAWN \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N)  
OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

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1 Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Health Quality  
2 Subcommittee  
3 Representative Cummings offered the following:  
4

**Amendment (with title amendment)**

6 Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:  
7 Section 1. Subsections (5) and (11) of section 486.021,  
8 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:  
9 486.021 Definitions.—In this chapter, unless the context  
10 otherwise requires, the term:

11 (5) "Physical therapist" means a person who is licensed  
12 and who practices physical therapy in accordance with the  
13 provisions of this chapter. A physical therapist is responsible  
14 for managing all aspects of the physical therapy care of a  
15 patient. A physical therapist shall provide:

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16       (a) The initial evaluation, determination of diagnosis,  
17 prognosis, treatment and intervention plan, and documentation of  
18 each patient visit.

19       (b) Periodic reevaluation of each patient and related  
20 documentation.

21       (c) Documentation of a patient's discharge from treatment,  
22 including the patient's response to treatment and intervention.

23       (d) Communication of the overall plan of care with the  
24 patient or the patient's legally authorized representative.

25       (e) Consultation with or referral of the patient to a  
26 practitioner of record if the patient's condition is found to be  
27 outside the scope of physical therapy or fails to improve within  
28 a reasonably expected time frame. For purposes of this section,  
29 a health care practitioner licensed under chapter 458, chapter  
30 459, chapter 460, chapter 461, or chapter 466 and engaged in  
31 active practice is eligible to serve as a practitioner of  
32 record.

33       (11) (a) "Practice of physical therapy" means:

34       1. Examining, evaluating, and testing patients and clients  
35 with mechanical, physiological, and developmental impairments;  
36 functional limitations; disabilities; or other health and  
37 movement-related conditions in order to determine a diagnosis,  
38 prognosis, treatment and intervention plan, and to reevaluate  
39 the ongoing effect of treatment.

40       2. Alleviating impairments, functional limitations, and  
41 disabilities by designing, implementing, and modifying treatment

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42 interventions that may include, but are not limited to,  
43 therapeutic exercise; functional training related to movement  
44 and mobility in self-care and in home; community or work  
45 integration or reintegration; manual therapy without the use of  
46 a filiform needle, including soft tissue and joint mobilization  
47 or manipulation, with the exception of specific chiropractic  
48 manipulation; therapeutic massage; airway clearance techniques;  
49 integumentary protection and repair techniques; debridement and  
50 wound care; physical agents or modalities; mechanical and  
51 electrotherapeutic modalities; and patient-related instruction.

52 3. Reducing the risk of injury, impairment, functional  
53 limitation, and disability through methods including, but not  
54 limited to, the promotion and maintenance of fitness, health,  
55 and wellness in patients of all ages.

56 4. Engaging in administration, consultation, education,  
57 and research.

58 5. Using apparatus and equipment in the application of  
59 this subsection. ~~the performance of physical therapy assessments~~  
60 ~~and the treatment of any disability, injury, disease, or other~~  
61 ~~health condition of human beings, or the prevention of such~~  
62 ~~disability, injury, disease, or other condition of health, and~~  
63 ~~rehabilitation as related thereto by the use of the physical,~~  
64 ~~chemical, and other properties of air; electricity; exercise;~~  
65 ~~massage; the performance of acupuncture only upon compliance~~  
66 ~~with the criteria set forth by the Board of Medicine, when no~~  
67 ~~penetration of the skin occurs; the use of radiant energy,~~

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68 ~~including ultraviolet, visible, and infrared rays; ultrasound;~~  
69 ~~water; the use of apparatus and equipment in the application of~~  
70 ~~the foregoing or related thereto; the performance of tests of~~  
71 ~~neuromuscular functions as an aid to the diagnosis or treatment~~  
72 ~~of any human condition; or the performance of electromyography~~  
73 ~~as an aid to the diagnosis of any human condition only upon~~  
74 ~~compliance with the criteria set forth by the Board of Medicine.~~

75 (b) ~~(a)~~ A physical therapist may implement a plan of  
76 treatment developed by the physical therapist for a patient or  
77 provided for a patient by a practitioner of record or by an  
78 advanced registered nurse practitioner licensed under s.  
79 464.012. ~~The physical therapist shall refer the patient to or~~  
80 ~~consult with a practitioner of record if the patient's condition~~  
81 ~~is found to be outside the scope of physical therapy. If~~  
82 ~~physical therapy treatment for a patient is required beyond 21~~  
83 ~~days for a condition not previously assessed by a practitioner~~  
84 ~~of record, the physical therapist shall obtain a practitioner of~~  
85 ~~record who will review and sign the plan. For purposes of this~~  
86 ~~paragraph, a health care practitioner licensed under chapter~~  
87 ~~458, chapter 459, chapter 460, chapter 461, or chapter 466 and~~  
88 ~~engaged in active practice is eligible to serve as a~~  
89 ~~practitioner of record.~~

90 (c) ~~(b)~~ The use of roentgen rays and radium for diagnostic  
91 and therapeutic purposes and the use of electricity for surgical  
92 purposes, including cauterization, are not "physical therapy"  
93 for purposes of this chapter.

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94        ~~(d)(e)~~ The practice of physical therapy does not authorize  
95 a physical therapy practitioner to practice chiropractic  
96 medicine as defined in chapter 460, including specific spinal  
97 manipulation. ~~For the performance of specific chiropractic~~  
98 ~~spinal manipulation, a physical therapist shall refer the~~  
99 ~~patient to a health care practitioner licensed under chapter~~  
100 ~~460.~~

101        ~~(e)(d)~~ This subsection does not authorize a physical  
102 therapist to implement a plan of treatment for a patient  
103 currently being treated in a facility licensed pursuant to  
104 chapter 395.

105        Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 486.081, Florida  
106 Statutes, is amended to read:

107        486.081 Physical therapist; issuance of license without  
108 examination to person passing examination of another authorized  
109 examining board; fee.—

110        (1) The board may cause a license to be issued through the  
111 department without examination to any applicant who presents  
112 evidence satisfactory to the board of having passed the American  
113 Registry Examination prior to 1971 or an examination in physical  
114 therapy before a similar lawfully authorized examining board of  
115 another state, the District of Columbia, a territory, or a  
116 foreign country, if the standards for licensure in physical  
117 therapy in such other state, district, territory, or foreign  
118 country are determined by the board to be as high as those of  
119 this state, as established by rules adopted pursuant to this

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120 chapter. Any person who holds a license pursuant to this section  
121 may use the words "physical therapist" or "physiotherapist," or  
122 the letters "P.T.," in connection with her or his name or place  
123 of business to denote her or his licensure hereunder. Any person  
124 who holds a license pursuant this section and has obtained a  
125 doctoral degree in physical therapy may use the letters "D.P.T."  
126 or "P.T."

127 Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 486.135, Florida  
128 Statutes, is amended to read:

129 486.135 False representation of licensure, or willful  
130 misrepresentation or fraudulent representation to obtain  
131 license, unlawful.—

132 (1) (a) It is unlawful for any person who is not licensed  
133 under this chapter as a physical therapist, or whose license has  
134 been suspended or revoked, to use in connection with her or his  
135 name or place of business the words "physical therapist,"  
136 "physiotherapist," "physical therapy," "physiotherapy,"  
137 "registered physical therapist," or "licensed physical  
138 therapist"; or the letters "P.T.," or "D.P.T." ~~"Ph.T.,"~~  
139 ~~"R.P.T.," or "L.P.T.";~~ or any other words, letters,  
140 abbreviations, or insignia indicating or implying that she or he  
141 is a physical therapist or to represent herself or himself as a  
142 physical therapist in any other way, orally, in writing, in  
143 print, or by sign, directly or by implication, unless physical  
144 therapy services are provided or supplied by a physical  
145 therapist licensed in accordance with this chapter.

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146 (b) It is unlawful for any person who is not licensed  
147 under this chapter as a physical therapist assistant, or whose  
148 license has been suspended or revoked, to use in connection with  
149 her or his name the words "physical therapist assistant,"  
150 ~~"licensed physical therapist assistant," "registered physical~~  
151 ~~therapist assistant," or "physical therapy technician";~~ or the  
152 letters "P.T.A.," ~~"L.P.T.A.," "R.P.T.A.," or "P.T.T.";~~ or any  
153 other words, letters, abbreviations, or insignia indicating or  
154 implying that she or he is a physical therapist assistant or to  
155 represent herself or himself as a physical therapist assistant  
156 in any other way, orally, in writing, in print, or by sign,  
157 directly or by implication.

158 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015

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160 -----  
161 **T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

162 Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:  
163 An act relating to physical therapy; amending s. 486.021, F.S.;  
164 revising the definitions of the terms "physical therapist" and  
165 "practice of physical therapy"; amending s. 486.081, F.S.;  
166 authorizing a licensed physical therapist who has a doctoral  
167 degree to use certain letters in connection with her or his name  
168 or place of business; amending s. 486.135, F.S.; revising the  
169 terms prohibited from use by a person who is not licensed as a  
170 physical therapist or physical therapist assistant; providing an  
171 effective date.

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