

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 505

BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO PHYSICAL THERAPY; AMENDING CHAPTER 22, TITLE 54, IDAHO CODE, BY  
2 THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 54-2225, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR THE  
3 PRACTICE OF DRY NEEDLING BY A PHYSICAL THERAPIST AND TO AUTHORIZE RULE-  
4 MAKING; AND AMENDING SECTION 54-2203, IDAHO CODE, TO DEFINE A TERM AND  
5 TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.  
6

7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

8 SECTION 1. That Chapter 22, Title 54, Idaho Code, be, and the same is  
9 hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and des-  
10 ignated as Section 54-2225, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

11 54-2225. PRACTICE OF DRY NEEDLING. (1) A physical therapist may per-  
12 form dry needling, as defined in section 54-2203, Idaho Code, if the physical  
13 therapist has successfully completed minimum education and training re-  
14 quirements as determined by the board from a course in dry needling approved  
15 by the federation of state boards of physical therapy or another nationally  
16 recognized accrediting body of physical therapy that is approved by the  
17 board.

18 (2) The board shall have the power to promulgate rules that are neces-  
19 sary to carry out the provisions of this section.

20 SECTION 2. That Section 54-2203, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby  
21 amended to read as follows:

22 54-2203. DEFINITIONS. As used in this chapter:

23 (1) "Applicant" means a person applying for a license or permit under  
24 this chapter.

25 (2) "Board" means the Idaho physical therapy licensure board.

26 (3) "Bureau" means the bureau of occupational licenses.

27 (4) "Department" means the department of self-governing agencies.

28 (5) "Dry needling" means a skilled intervention performed by a phys-  
29 ical therapist that uses a thin filiform needle to penetrate the skin and  
30 stimulate underlying neural, muscular and connective tissues for the eval-  
31 uation and management of neuromusculoskeletal conditions, pain and movement  
32 impairments.

33 (6) "License" means a document issued by the board to a person under  
34 this chapter authorizing the person to practice as a physical therapist or  
35 physical therapist assistant.

36 (7) "Physical therapist" means a person licensed under the provisions  
37 of this chapter to engage in the practice of physical therapy.

38 (8) "Physical therapist assistant" means a person who meets the re-  
39 quirements of this chapter and who performs physical therapy procedures and

1 related tasks that have been selected and delegated only by a supervising  
2 physical therapist.

3 (~~89~~) "Physical therapy" means the care and services provided by or un-  
4 der the direction and supervision of a physical therapist.

5 (~~910~~) The "pPractice of physical therapy" means the exercise of the  
6 profession of physical therapy by a person who engages in the following  
7 health care activities:

8 (a) Examining, evaluating and testing individuals with mechanical,  
9 physiological and developmental impairments, functional limitations,  
10 and disability or other health and movement-related conditions in or-  
11 der to determine a diagnosis for physical therapy and prognosis for  
12 physical therapy, plan of therapeutic intervention, and to assess the  
13 ongoing effects of intervention-;

14 (b) Alleviating impairments and functional limitations by designing,  
15 implementing and modifying therapeutic interventions that include,  
16 but are not limited to: therapeutic exercise; functional mobility  
17 training in self-care and in-home, community or work reintegration;  
18 manual therapy; assistive, adaptive, protective and supportive de-  
19 vices and equipment; bronchopulmonary hygiene; debridement and wound  
20 care; physical agents or modalities; mechanical and electrotherapeutic  
21 modalities; and patient-related instruction; and to reduce the risk of  
22 injury, impairment, functional limitation, and disability, including  
23 the promotion and maintenance of fitness, health, and quality of life in  
24 all age populations. The practice of physical therapy shall not include  
25 the use of radiology, surgery or medical diagnosis of disease-; and

26 (c) Engaging in administration, consultation, testing, education and  
27 research as related to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection.

28 (~~101~~) "Supportive personnel" means a person or persons trained under  
29 the direction of a physical therapist who performs designated and supervised  
30 routine physical therapy tasks.