

1 SENATE BILL 412

2 **56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2023**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Cliff R. Pirtle

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10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO HEALTH CARE; AMENDING THE PHYSICAL THERAPY ACT TO
12 ALLOW PHYSICAL THERAPISTS TO ORDER MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING
13 EXAMINATIONS.

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15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

16 SECTION 1. Section 61-12D-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1997,
17 Chapter 89, Section 1) is amended to read:

18 "61-12D-1. SHORT TITLE.--~~[This act]~~ Chapter 61, Article
19 12D NMSA 1978 may be cited as the "Physical Therapy Act"."

20 SECTION 2. Section 61-12D-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1997,
21 Chapter 89, Section 3) is amended to read:

22 "61-12D-3. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Physical Therapy
23 Act:

24 A. "assistive personnel" means physical therapist
25 assistants, physical therapy aides and other assistive

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underscoring material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 personnel;

2 B. "board" means the physical therapy board;

3 C. "other assistive personnel" means trained or
4 educated personnel, other than physical therapist assistants or
5 physical therapy aides, who perform specific, designated tasks
6 related to physical therapy under the supervision of a physical
7 therapist. At the discretion of the supervising physical
8 therapist and if not prohibited by any other law, it may be
9 appropriate for other assistive personnel to be identified by
10 the title specific to their training or education;

11 D. "person" means an individual or other legal
12 entity, excluding a governmental entity;

13 E. "physical therapist" means a person who is
14 licensed in this state to practice physical therapy;

15 F. "physical therapist assistant" means a person
16 who performs physical therapy procedures and related tasks
17 pursuant to a plan of care written by the supervising physical
18 therapist;

19 G. "physical therapy" means the care and services
20 provided by or under the direction and supervision of a
21 physical therapist;

22 H. "physical therapy aide" means a person, trained
23 under the direction of a physical therapist, who performs
24 designated and supervised routine physical therapy tasks;

25 I. "practice of physical therapy" means:

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underscoring material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 (1) examining and evaluating patients with
2 mechanical, physiological and developmental impairments,
3 functional limitations and disabilities or other health-related
4 conditions in order to determine a physical therapy diagnosis,
5 prognosis and planned therapeutic intervention;

6 (2) alleviating impairments and functional
7 limitations by designing, implementing and modifying
8 therapeutic interventions that include therapeutic exercise;
9 functional training in self-care and community or work
10 reintegration; manual therapy techniques, including soft tissue
11 and joint mobilization and manipulation; therapeutic massage;
12 assistive and adaptive devices and equipment; bronchopulmonary
13 hygiene; debridement and wound care; physical agents;
14 mechanical and electrotherapeutic modalities; and patient-
15 related instruction;

16 (3) preventing injury, impairments, functional
17 limitations and disability, including the promotion and
18 maintenance of fitness, health and quality of life in all age
19 populations; ~~and~~

20 (4) engaging in consultation, testing,
21 education and research; and

22 (5) ordering magnetic resonance imaging
23 examinations to aid in the diagnosis and treatment of physical
24 therapy patients; and

25 J. "restricted license" means a license to which

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underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 restrictions or conditions as to scope of practice, place of
2 practice, supervision of practice, duration of licensed status
3 or type or condition of patient or client served are imposed by
4 the board."

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