

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

3 HOUSE BILL 3380

By: Moore

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to physical therapists; amending 59  
8 O.S. 2021, Section 887.17, which relates to  
eliminating time limits; and providing an effective  
9 date.

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11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

12 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2021, Section 887.17, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 Section 887.18 A. 1. Except for workers' compensation claims,  
15 any person licensed under the Physical Therapy Practice Act as a  
16 physical therapist shall be able to evaluate and treat human  
17 ailments by physical therapy on a patient without a referral from a  
18 licensed health care practitioner ~~for a period not to exceed thirty~~  
19 ~~(30) days. Treatment may be provided by a physical therapist~~  
20 ~~assistant under the supervision of a physical therapist. Any~~  
21 ~~treatment provided beyond the thirty day period shall be only under~~  
22 ~~the referral of a person licensed as a physician or surgeon with~~  
23 ~~unlimited license, or the physician assistant of the person so~~  
24 ~~licensed, and Doctors of Dentistry, Chiropractic and Podiatry and an~~

1 ~~Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, with those referrals being~~  
2 ~~limited to their respective areas of training and practice.~~

3 2. A physical therapist may provide services within the scope  
4 of physical therapy practice without a physician referral to  
5 children who receive physical therapy services pursuant to the  
6 Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004, as  
7 may be amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973,  
8 as may be amended. Provided further, a plan of care developed by a  
9 person authorized to provide services within the scope of the  
10 Physical Therapy Practice Act shall be deemed to be a prescription  
11 for purposes of providing services pursuant to the provisions of the  
12 Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004, as  
13 may be amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973,  
14 as may be amended.

15 3. Nothing in the Physical Therapy Practice Act shall prevent a  
16 physical therapist from performing screening and educational  
17 procedures within the scope of physical therapy practice without a  
18 physician referral.

19 4. Nothing in the Physical Therapy Practice Act shall prevent a  
20 physical therapist from performing services that are provided for  
21 the purpose of fitness, wellness, or prevention that is not related  
22 to the treatment of an injury or ailment.

1           5. Nothing in the Physical Therapy Practice Act shall be  
2 construed as authorization for a physical therapist or physical  
3 therapist assistant to practice any branch of the healing art.

4           6. Any person violating the provisions of the Physical Therapy  
5 Practice Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor as per Section 887.16  
6 of this title.

7           B. 1. The provisions of the Physical Therapy Practice Act are  
8 not intended to limit the activities of persons legitimately engaged  
9 in the nontherapeutic administration of baths, massage, and normal  
10 exercise.

11           2. The Physical Therapy Practice Act shall not prohibit  
12 students who are enrolled in schools of physical therapy approved by  
13 the State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision from performing  
14 such work as is incidental to their course of study; nor shall it  
15 prevent any student in any recognized school of the healing art in  
16 carrying out prescribed courses of study; provided such school is a  
17 recognized institution by the statutes of Oklahoma, and its  
18 practitioners are duly licensed as prescribed by law.

19           3. Nothing in the Physical Therapy Practice Act shall apply to  
20 any person employed by an agency, bureau, or division of the federal  
21 government while in the discharge of official duties; however, if  
22 such individual engages in the practice of physical therapy outside  
23 the line of official duty, the individual must be licensed as herein  
24 provided.

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SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2022.

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