



Rep. Theresa Mah

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LRB100 03009 SMS 25611 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 1276

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend House Bill 1276 by replacing  
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Illinois Physical Therapy Act is amended by  
5 changing Section 1 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 90/1) (from Ch. 111, par. 4251)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2026)

8 Sec. 1. Definitions. As used in this Act:

9 (1) "Physical therapy" means all of the following:

10 (A) Examining, evaluating, and testing individuals who  
11 may have mechanical, physiological, or developmental  
12 impairments, functional limitations, disabilities, or  
13 other health and movement-related conditions, classifying  
14 these disorders, determining a rehabilitation prognosis  
15 and plan of therapeutic intervention, and assessing the  
16 on-going effects of the interventions.

1 (B) Alleviating impairments, functional limitations,  
2 or disabilities by designing, implementing, and modifying  
3 therapeutic interventions that may include, but are not  
4 limited to, the evaluation or treatment of a person through  
5 the use of the effective properties of physical measures  
6 and heat, cold, light, water, radiant energy, electricity,  
7 sound, and air and use of therapeutic massage, therapeutic  
8 exercise, mobilization, and rehabilitative procedures,  
9 with or without assistive devices, for the purposes of  
10 preventing, correcting, or alleviating a physical or  
11 mental impairment, functional limitation, or disability.

12 (C) Reducing the risk of injury, impairment,  
13 functional limitation, or disability, including the  
14 promotion and maintenance of fitness, health, and  
15 wellness.

16 (D) Engaging in administration, consultation,  
17 education, and research.

18 "Physical therapy" includes, but is not limited to: (a)  
19 performance of specialized tests and measurements, (b)  
20 administration of specialized treatment procedures, (c)  
21 interpretation of referrals from physicians, dentists,  
22 advanced practice nurses, physician assistants, and podiatric  
23 physicians, (d) establishment, and modification of physical  
24 therapy treatment programs, (e) administration of topical  
25 medication used in generally accepted physical therapy  
26 procedures when such medication is either prescribed by the

1 patient's physician, licensed to practice medicine in all its  
2 branches, the patient's physician licensed to practice  
3 podiatric medicine, the patient's advanced practice nurse, the  
4 patient's physician assistant, or the patient's dentist or used  
5 following the physician's orders or written instructions, and  
6 (f) supervision or teaching of physical therapy. "Physical  
7 therapy" also includes the practice of dry needling, also known  
8 as intramuscular manual therapy, within the scope of practice  
9 of a physical therapist who has completed between 30 and 500  
10 hours of the appropriate education and training. Physical  
11 therapy does not include radiology, electrosurgery,  
12 chiropractic technique or determination of a differential  
13 diagnosis; provided, however, the limitation on determining a  
14 differential diagnosis shall not in any manner limit a physical  
15 therapist licensed under this Act from performing an evaluation  
16 pursuant to such license. Nothing in this Section shall limit a  
17 physical therapist from employing appropriate physical therapy  
18 techniques that he or she is educated and licensed to perform.  
19 A physical therapist shall refer to a licensed physician,  
20 advanced practice nurse, physician assistant, dentist,  
21 podiatric physician, other physical therapist, or other health  
22 care provider any patient whose medical condition should, at  
23 the time of evaluation or treatment, be determined to be beyond  
24 the scope of practice of the physical therapist.

25 (2) "Physical therapist" means a person who practices  
26 physical therapy and who has met all requirements as provided

1 in this Act.

2 (3) "Department" means the Department of Professional  
3 Regulation.

4 (4) "Director" means the Director of Professional  
5 Regulation.

6 (5) "Board" means the Physical Therapy Licensing and  
7 Disciplinary Board approved by the Director.

8 (6) "Referral" means a written or oral authorization for  
9 physical therapy services for a patient by a physician,  
10 dentist, advanced practice nurse, physician assistant, or  
11 podiatric physician who maintains medical supervision of the  
12 patient and makes a diagnosis or verifies that the patient's  
13 condition is such that it may be treated by a physical  
14 therapist.

15 (7) "Documented current and relevant diagnosis" for the  
16 purpose of this Act means a diagnosis, substantiated by  
17 signature or oral verification of a physician, dentist,  
18 advanced practice nurse, physician assistant, or podiatric  
19 physician, that a patient's condition is such that it may be  
20 treated by physical therapy as defined in this Act, which  
21 diagnosis shall remain in effect until changed by the  
22 physician, dentist, advanced practice nurse, physician  
23 assistant, or podiatric physician.

24 (8) "State" includes:

25 (a) the states of the United States of America;

26 (b) the District of Columbia; and

1 (c) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

2 (9) "Physical therapist assistant" means a person licensed  
3 to assist a physical therapist and who has met all requirements  
4 as provided in this Act and who works under the supervision of  
5 a licensed physical therapist to assist in implementing the  
6 physical therapy treatment program as established by the  
7 licensed physical therapist. The patient care activities  
8 provided by the physical therapist assistant shall not include  
9 the interpretation of referrals, evaluation procedures, or the  
10 planning or major modification of patient programs.

11 (10) "Physical therapy aide" means a person who has  
12 received on the job training, specific to the facility in which  
13 he is employed.

14 (11) "Advanced practice nurse" means a person licensed as  
15 an advanced practice nurse under the Nurse Practice Act.

16 (12) "Physician assistant" means a person licensed under  
17 the Physician Assistant Practice Act of 1987.

18 (Source: P.A. 98-214, eff. 8-9-13; 99-173, eff. 7-29-15;  
19 99-229, eff. 8-3-15; 99-642, eff. 7-28-16; revised 10-27-16.)

20 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
21 becoming law."