

45: 9-37.1

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 45:9-37.1

(Physical therapy—therapists may work for dentists)

LAWS OF: 1983

CHAPTER: 22

Bill No.: S1115

Sponsor(s): Dalton and Perskie

Date Introduced: March 1, 1982

Committee: Assembly: Higher Education and Regulated Professions

Senate: Labor, Industry and Professions

Amended during passage: /// No

Date of Passage: Assembly: Dec. 6, 1982

Senate: June 24, 1982

Date of Approval: Jan. 22, 1983

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: Yes //

Committee statement: Assembly Yes //

Senate Yes //

Fiscal Note: /// No

Veto Message: /// No

Message on Signing: Yes //

Following were printed:

Reports: /// No

Hearings: /// No

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CHAPTER 22 LAWS OF N. J. 1982

APPROVED 1-22-82

SENATE, No. 1115

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 1, 1982

By Senators DALTON and PERSKIE

Referred to Committee on Labor, Industry and Professions

AN ACT to provide that physical therapists may practice physical therapy for licensed dentists in addition to licensed physicians, and amending P. L. 1963, c. 169.

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
2 *of New Jersey:*

1 1. Section 2 of P. L. 1963, c. 169 (C. 45:9-37.1) is amended to
2 read as follows:

3 2. As used in this act, unless the context otherwise requires, the
4 following words shall have the following meanings:

5 (a) "Board" means the State Board of Medical Examiners
6 which shall enforce and administer the provisions of this act.

7 (b) "Advisory committee" means the physical therapy advisory
8 committee as described in section 10 of this act.

9 (c) "Physical therapy" or "physiotherapy" shall mean and
10 include treatment of a human being by the use of exercise, massage,
11 heat, cold, water, radiant energy, electricity, or sound for the
12 purpose of correcting or alleviating any physical condition or
13 preventing the development of any physical disability; or the
14 performance of appropriate tests and measurements, authorized
15 by the State Board of Medical Examiners, to assess the extent of
15A body malfunction provided, however, that physical therapy shall
15B not include radiology or electrosurgery.

16 (d) "Physical therapist" shall mean a person who practices
17 physical therapy, under the direction and supervision of a licensed
18 physician *or dentist*, or a person who renders physical therapy
19 services upon the direction of a licensed physician *or dentist for a*

Matter printed in italics thus is new matter.

20 *physical condition, disability or assessment of body malfunction*
21 *which the physician or dentist is licensed to treat.*

22 (e) "Physical therapist assistant" shall mean a person who
23 assists, under the direction of a registered physical therapist, the
24 physical therapist in the practice of physical therapy and who per-
25 forms such procedures delegated to him that are commensurate
26 with his education and training.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill would amend the definition of "physical therapist" to include those persons practicing physical therapy under the direction or supervision of a dentist as well as a doctor. The amendment also specifies that a physical therapist may only treat a condition which is within the licensed capabilities of the directing or supervising doctor or dentist.

51115 (1982)

**SENATE LABOR, INDUSTRY AND PROFESSIONS
COMMITTEE**

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1115

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 14, 1982

This bill would allow a dentist to refer his patients to a physical therapist, who is under his direction and supervision, for an assessment of body malfunction or therapy of a condition or disability which the dentist is licensed to treat.

ASSEMBLY HIGHER EDUCATION AND REGULATED
PROFESSIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1115

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: OCTOBER 18, 1982

This bill amends current law to allow a dentist to refer patients to a physical therapist for an assessment of bodily malfunction or therapy of a condition or disability which the dentist is licensed to treat. The physical therapist would be under the direction and supervision of the dentist.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: KATHERINE BROKAW

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1983

Governor Thomas H. Kean has signed the following bills:

S-1115, sponsored by Senator Daniel J. Dalton (D-Camden), allows physical therapists to take referrals from licensed dentists as well as from physicians. Under current law, physical therapists have no statutory authority to accept directions from a dentist to give a patient therapy.

A-1457, sponsored by Assemblyman Frank Pelly, (D-Middlesex) includes the state's colleges under the Public College Auxiliary Organization Act, which allows them to form separate corporations for managing operations such as food services, book stores and athletic activities. The bill was conditionally vetoed by Governor Kean until the wording was changed to continue the standing exemption of county colleges from having to hire civil service employees.

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