

Kelli Toth

From: Keith Poorbaugh [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 8, 2021 1:32 PM
To: Senate Judiciary
Subject: SB 65

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To whom it may concern,

I am a licensed physical therapist (AK 1581) practicing in Wasilla, AK. Also, I am a member of the state licensing board (PT/OT) but I am not representing the board in any way with input regarding SB 65.

I would like to suggest that SB 65 regarding LIABILITY CONSULTING HEALTH CARE PROVIDER falls short in offering adequate coverage to all relevant members of the healthcare profession. As a physical therapist practicing for over 25yrs, I routinely consult and collaborate with other health care providers (HCP). I am often asked to assess, evaluate and possibly suggest or provide interventions for another HCP experiencing a disorder causing a painful limit of movement or posture. My scope of practice limits me from diagnosing a medical disease but the reality is that most consults among HCPs are more related to simple musculoskeletal disorders, physical impairments and movement dysfunctions. These conditions are well within the scope of the HCPs trained and accepted as the musculoskeletal experts (PT / OT / ATC).

It would be a disservice to the public and the health care professionals listed in the current language of SB 65 if you ignore the value of including other recognized HCPs such as physical therapists, occupational therapists and certified athletic trainers. Essentially the current bill encourages HCPs to seek consult from one another only when they need imaging or drugs but it fails to recognize that all Alaskans benefit when a conservative approach is the first option. Therapists (PT/OT) and trainers (ATC) are competent and capable to offer this type of consult and they should be included in SB 65

Keith Poorbaugh

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