

Introduced: 3/12/74
Referred: Health, Education &
Social Services and Judiciary

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION
AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 774

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to physical therapy."

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

8 * Section 1. AS 08.84.010 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

9 Sec. 08.84.010. STATE PHYSICAL THERAPY BOARD. (a) There is created
10 the state Physical Therapy Board, which consists of five members
11 appointed by the governor. The membership consists of one physician
12 licensed to practice medicine in the state, three physical therapists
13 registered in the state, and one lay person. The members shall be
14 selected from a list of 10 persons which shall be submitted by the
15 Alaska Chapter of the American Physical Therapist Association. Members
16 of the board shall be appointed for terms of one, two and three years,
17 respectively; all subsequent appointments shall be made for a term of
18 three years and until their successors are appointed. Vacancies on the
19 board shall be filled by appointment in like manner. Board members are
20 not entitled to a travel or per diem allowance.

21 (b) The Physical Therapy Board shall conduct examinations for
22 applicants and shall control all matters pertaining to the registration
23 of physical therapists and physical therapy assistants and the practice
24 of physical therapy. The board shall

- 25 (1) pass upon the qualifications of applicants;
26 (2) conduct examinations;
27 (3) issue temporary permits and registration certificates to
28 physical therapists and physical therapy assistants qualified under this
29 chapter;

1 (4) suspend or revoke registration certificates, when neces-
2 sary;

3 (5) keep a current register listing the name, business address,
4 date and number of registration certificate of each physical therapist
5 and physical therapy assistant who is registered to practice in this
6 state;

7 (6) keep a record and minutes of its meetings, proceedings
8 and hearings.

9 * Sec. 2. AS 08.84.030 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

10 Sec. 08.84.030. QUALIFICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION. To be eligible
11 for registration by the board as a physical therapist or physical therapy
12 assistant, an applicant shall

13 (1) be of good moral character;

14 (2) have graduated from a school of physical therapy approved
15 by the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals of the American Medical
16 Association, or the American Physical Therapy Association;

17 (3) pass to the satisfaction of the board an examination from
18 the professional examination service of the American Public Health
19 Association, to determine his fitness for practice as a physical thera-
20 pist or physical therapy assistant, or be entitled to registration with-
21 out examination as provided in sec. 60 of this chapter.

22 * Sec. 3. AS 08.84.040 is amended to read:

23 Sec. 08.84.040. APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION. To be registered
24 as a physical therapist or physical therapy assistant, an applicant shall
25 apply to the board on a form prescribed by the board. An applicant shall
26 include in his application, evidence under oath that he possesses the
27 qualifications required by sec. 30 of this chapter.

28 * Sec. 4. AS 08.84.060 is amended to read:

29 Sec. 08.84.060. REGISTRATION BY ENDORSEMENT. The board may

1 register without examination an applicant who is a physical therapist or
2 physical therapy assistant registered under the laws of another state
3 or territory, if the requirements for registration in that state or
4 territory were, at the date of his registration, substantially equal to
5 the requirements in this state.

6 * Sec. 5. AS 08.84.065 is amended to read:

7 Sec. 08.84.065. TEMPORARY PERMIT. (a) The board may issue a non-
8 renewable temporary permit to an applicant for registration [LICENSURE]
9 by endorsement or by examination who meets the requirements of sec.
10 30(1), (2) and (3) of this chapter and pays the required fee.

11 (b) A temporary permit issued to an applicant for registration
12 [LICENSURE] by endorsement is valid for eight months or until the board
13 considers the applicant's endorsement application, whichever occurs
14 first.

15 (c) A temporary permit issued to an applicant for registration
16 [LICENSURE] by examination is valid for eight months or until the
17 results of the first examination for which the applicant is scheduled
18 are published, whichever occurs first. If the applicant fails to take
19 the first examination for which he is scheduled his temporary permit
20 lapses on the day of the examination.

21 * Sec. 6. AS 08.84.080 is amended to read:

22 Sec. 08.84.080. EXAMINATIONS. (a) The board shall examine appli-
23 cants for registration as physical therapists or physical therapy
24 assistants at the times and places it determines. [IT MAY EMPLOY TWO
25 REGISTERED PHYSICAL THERAPISTS TO AID IT IN THE EXAMINATION.]

26 (b) An application for examination shall be submitted to the
27 department at least 40 days before the examination date.

28 * Sec. 7. AS 08.84.090 is amended to read:

29 Sec. 08.84.090. REGISTRATION. The board shall register an

1 applicant who meets the qualifications for registration under this
2 chapter. It shall issue a certificate of registration to each person
3 registered. A certificate of registration is prima facie evidence of
4 the right of the person to represent himself as a registered physical
5 therapist or registered physical therapy assistant.

6 * Sec. 8. AS 08.84.100(a) is amended to read:

7 (a) A registered physical therapist or physical therapy assistant
8 shall renew his registration biennially with the Department of Commerce
9 on or before the date set by the department under AS 08.01.100(a). If
10 the registration is not renewed on or before that date, it lapses.

11 * Sec. 9. AS 08.84.120 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

12 (9) as a physical therapy assistant, has attempted to practice
13 physical therapy which has not been initiated, supervised and terminated
14 by a registered physical therapist.

15 * Sec. 10. AS 08.84.130 is amended to read:

16 Sec. 08.84.130. FALSE CLAIM OF REGISTRATION FORBIDDEN. (a) A
17 person not registered as a physical therapist, or whose registration
18 is suspended or revoked, or whose registration is lapsed, who uses in
19 connection with his name the words or letters "R.P.T.," "Registered
20 Physical Therapist," or other letters, words, or insignia indicating
21 or implying that he is a registered physical therapist, or who in any
22 way, orally, or in writing, directly or by implication, represents
23 himself as a registered physical therapist is guilty of a misdemeanor.

24 (b) A person not registered as a physical therapy assistant, or
25 whose registration is suspended or revoked, or whose registration is
26 lapsed, who in any way, orally, or in writing, directly or by implication,
27 represents himself as a registered physical therapy assistant is guilty
28 of a misdemeanor.

29 * Sec. 11. AS 08.84.190 is amended to read:

1 Sec. 08.84.190. DEFINITIONS. As used in this chapter, unless the
2 context otherwise requires,

3 (1) "board" means the State Physical Therapy [MEDICAL] Board,
4 established by ch. 64 of this title;

5 (2) "physical therapist" means a person who practices physi-
6 cal therapy;

7 (3) "physical therapy" means the treatment of a bodily or
8 mental condition of a person by the use of the properties of heat, light,
9 water, electricity, massage, [AND] therapeutic exercise including
10 physical rehabilitation procedures, and physical therapy evaluation,
11 treatment planning, instruction and consultative services; the [. THE]
12 use of roentgen rays and radium for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes,
13 and the use of electricity for surgical purposes, including cauteriza-
14 tion, are not included within the term "physical therapy";

15 (4) "physical therapy assistant" means a person who assists
16 in the practice of physical therapy or portions of it as initiated,
17 supervised, and terminated by a registered physical therapist; his
18 responsibilities do not include testing or evaluation.
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