



# LAWS OF ALASKA

1974

Source

HB 774 am

Chapter No.

71

## AN ACT

Relating to physical therapy.

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

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 AS 08.84.010 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

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

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

- (1) pass upon the qualifications of applicants;
- (2) conduct examinations;

- (3) issue temporary permits and registration certificates to physical therapists and physical therapy assistants qualified under this chapter;

(4) suspend or revoke registration certificates, when necessary;

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

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

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 AS 08.84.030 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

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

(1) be of good moral character;

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

(3) pass to the satisfaction of the board an examination from the professional examination service of the American Public Health Association, to determine his fitness for practice as a physical therapist or physical therapy assistant, or be entitled to registration without examination as provided in sec. 60 of this chapter.

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

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

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

Sec. 08.84.060. REGISTRATION BY ENDORSEMENT. The board may register without examination an applicant who is a physical therapist or physical therapy assistant registered under the laws of another state or territory, if the requirements for registration in that state or territory were, at the date of his registration, substantially equal to the requirements in this state.

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

Sec. 08.84.065. TEMPORARY PERMIT. (a) The board may issue a nonrenewable temporary permit to an applicant for registration by endorsement or by examination who meets the requirements of sec. 30(1), (2) and (3) of this chapter and pays the required fee.

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

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

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

Sec. 08.84.080. EXAMINATIONS. (a) The board shall examine applicants for registration as physical therapists or physical therapy assistants at the times and places it determines.

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

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

Sec. 08.84.090. REGISTRATION. The board shall register an applicant who meets the qualifications for registration under this chapter. It shall issue a certificate of registration to each person registered. A certificate of registration is prima facie evidence of the right of the person to represent himself as a registered physical therapist or registered physical therapy assistant.

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

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

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

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

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

Sec. 08.84.130. FALSE CLAIM OF REGISTRATION FORBIDDEN.

(a) A person not registered as a physical therapist, or whose registration is suspended or revoked, or whose registration is lapsed, who uses in connection with his name the words or letters "R.P.T.," "Registered Physical Therapist," or other letters, words, or insignia indicating or implying that he is a registered physical therapist, or who in any way, orally, or in writing, directly or by implication, represents himself as a registered physical therapist is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(b) A person not registered as a physical therapy assistant, or whose registration is suspended or revoked, or whose registration is lapsed, who in any way, orally, or in writing, directly or by implication, represents himself as a

registered physical therapy assistant is guilty of a misdemeanor.

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

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

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

(2) "physical therapist" means a person who practices physical therapy;

(3) "physical therapy" means the treatment of a bodily or mental condition of a person by the use of the properties of heat, light, water, electricity, massage, therapeutic exercise including physical rehabilitation procedures, and physical therapy evaluation, treatment planning, instruction and consultative services; the use of roentgen rays and radium for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes, and the use of electricity for surgical purposes, including cauterization, are not included within the term "physical therapy";

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