

SENATE BILL NO. 1168

December 03, 2024, Introduced by Senator SANTANA and referred to the Committee on Health Policy.

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled "Public health code," by amending section 17801 (MCL 333.17801), as amended by 2009 PA 55, and by adding sections 17820a and 17820b.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 17801. (1) As used in this part:

2 (a) "Physical therapist" means an individual **who is** licensed
3 under this article **or authorized under section 17820a** to engage in
4 the practice of physical therapy.

1 (b) "Physical therapist assistant" means an individual with a
 2 health profession subfield license under this part, **or who is**
 3 **authorized under section 17820b to engage in practice as a physical**
 4 **therapist assistant**, who assists a physical therapist in physical
 5 therapy intervention.

6 (c) **"Physical therapy licensure compact" means the physical**
 7 **therapy licensure compact as enacted in section 16188.**

8 (d) ~~(e)~~—"Practice as physical therapist assistant" means the
 9 practice of physical therapy performed under the supervision of a
 10 physical therapist licensed under this part.

11 (e) ~~(d)~~—"Practice of physical therapy" means the evaluation
 12 of, education of, consultation with, or treatment of an individual
 13 by the employment of effective properties of physical measures and
 14 the use of therapeutic exercises and rehabilitative procedures,
 15 with or without assistive devices, for the purpose of preventing,
 16 correcting, or alleviating a physical or mental disability.
 17 Physical therapy includes treatment planning, performance of tests
 18 and measurements, interpretation of referrals, initiation of
 19 referrals, instruction, consultative services, and supervision of
 20 personnel. Physical measures include massage, mobilization, heat,
 21 cold, air, light, water, electricity, and sound. Practice of
 22 physical therapy does not include the identification of underlying
 23 medical problems or etiologies, establishment of medical diagnoses,
 24 or the prescribing of treatment.

25 (2) In addition to the definitions in this part, article 1
 26 contains general definitions and principles of construction
 27 applicable to all articles in this code and part 161 contains
 28 definitions applicable to this part.

29 **Sec. 17820a. (1) An individual who holds a compact privilege**

1 to practice as a physical therapist under the physical therapy
2 licensure compact is authorized to engage in the practice of
3 physical therapy under this article.

4 (2) For purposes of this article, including the obligations of
5 an individual who is licensed as a physical therapist, an
6 individual who holds a compact privilege to practice as a physical
7 therapist under the physical therapy licensure compact is
8 considered a physical therapist who is licensed under this part.

9 Sec. 17820b. (1) An individual who holds a compact privilege
10 to work as a physical therapist assistant under the physical
11 therapy licensure compact is authorized to engage in practice as a
12 physical therapist assistant under this article under the
13 supervision of a physical therapist.

14 (2) For purposes of this article, including the obligations of
15 an individual who is licensed as a physical therapist assistant, an
16 individual who holds a compact privilege to work as a physical
17 therapist assistant under the physical therapy licensure compact is
18 considered a physical therapist assistant who is licensed under
19 this part.

20 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days
21 after the date it is enacted into law.

22 Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect
23 unless House Bill No. 4504 of the 102nd Legislature is enacted into
24 law.