
SENATE BILL 6111

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Senator Fairley

Read first time 04/26/97. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to the prohibition of engaging in the practice of
2 chiropractic and spinal manipulation; amending RCW 18.74.010 and
3 18.74.035; and repealing RCW 18.74.085.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.74.010 and 1991 c 12 s 1 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 Unless the context otherwise requires, the definitions in this
8 section apply throughout this chapter.

9 (1) "Board" means the board of physical therapy created by RCW
10 18.74.020.

11 (2) "Department" means the department of health.

12 (3) "Physical therapy" means the treatment of any bodily or mental
13 condition of any person by the use of the physical, chemical, and other
14 properties of heat, cold, air, light, water, electricity, sound,
15 massage, and therapeutic exercise, which includes posture and
16 rehabilitation procedures; the performance of tests and measurements of
17 neuromuscular function as an aid to the diagnosis or treatment of any
18 human condition; performance of treatments on the basis of test
19 findings after consultation with and periodic review by an authorized

1 health care practitioner except as provided in RCW 18.74.012;
2 supervision of selective forms of treatment by trained supportive
3 personnel; and provision of consultative services for health,
4 education, and community agencies. The use of Roentgen rays and radium
5 for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes(~~(,)~~) and the use of electricity
6 for surgical purposes, including cauterization, (~~and the use of spinal~~
7 ~~manipulation or manipulative mobilization of the spine and its~~
8 ~~immediate articulations,~~) are not included under the term "physical
9 therapy" as used in this chapter.

10 (4) "Physical therapist" means a person who practices physical
11 therapy as defined in this chapter but does not include massage
12 operators as defined in RCW 18.108.010.

13 (5) "Secretary" means the secretary of health.

14 (6) Words importing the masculine gender may be applied to females.

15 (7) "Authorized health care practitioner" means and includes
16 licensed physicians, osteopathic physicians, chiropractors,
17 naturopaths, (~~podiatrists~~) podiatric physicians and surgeons, and
18 dentists: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That nothing herein shall be construed as
19 altering the scope of practice of such practitioners as defined in
20 their respective licensure laws.

21 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.74.035 and 1995 c 198 s 10 are each amended to read
22 as follows:

23 All qualified applicants for a license as a physical therapist
24 shall be examined by the board at such time and place as the board may
25 determine. The board may approve an examination prepared or
26 administered by a private testing agency or association of licensing
27 authorities. The examination shall embrace the following subjects:
28 The applied sciences of anatomy, neuroanatomy, kinesiology, physiology,
29 pathology, psychology, physics; physical therapy, as defined in this
30 chapter, applied to medicine, neurology, orthopedics, pediatrics,
31 psychiatry, surgery; medical ethics; technical procedures in the
32 practice of physical therapy as defined in this chapter; and such other
33 subjects as the board may deem useful to test the applicant's fitness
34 to practice physical therapy(~~(, but not including the adjustment or~~
35 ~~manipulation of the spine or use of a thrusting force as~~
36 ~~mobilization)~~). Examinations shall be held within the state at least
37 once a year, at such time and place as the board shall determine. An

1 applicant who fails an examination may apply for reexamination upon
2 payment of a reexamination fee determined by the secretary.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** RCW 18.74.085 and 1988 c 185 s 4 are each
4 repealed.

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