

Kansas State Board of Healing Arts
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To: Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee
Senator Michael O'Donnell, Chair

From: Kathleen Selzler Lippert, JD Executive Director
Kansas State Board of Healing Arts

Date: March 9, 2016

Subject: SB 490 PT Scope of Practice

Neutral testimony

The Kansas State Board of Healing Arts (KSBHA) appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 490. The KSBHA presently licenses and regulates 13 health care professions. The mission of the KSBHA is to safeguard the public and strengthen the healing arts.

The Board of Healing Arts requests Legislative direction with respect to the scope of practice for physical therapy professions, specifically, whether or not “dry needling” is included or excluded within the purview of their practice act. Recently, Kansas licensed physical therapists requested that the Board of Healing Arts specifically determine that “dry needling” was within the statutory scope of practice for physical therapists. The Board felt this determination would be a stretch of their regulatory authority and recommended that the physical therapists instead pursue statutory amendment to their practice act on this issue.

The Kansas State Board of Healing Arts is a partnership of capable staff and qualified professional volunteers on the Board, and its Advisory Councils who combine their efforts to protect the patients and families of Kansas through well-reasoned and fair enforcement of statutes related to the healing arts. Your continued clarity and specificity in statutory language makes our work possible. Thank you.

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