

SENATE BILL REPORT

SHB 2439

As of February 15, 2012

Title: An act relating to exemptions from licensure as a physical therapist.

Brief Description: Allowing persons satisfying physical therapy clinical education requirements to be exempt from licensure while under the direct supervision of a licensed physical therapist assistant.

Sponsors: House Committee on Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Green, Warnick, Cody, Harris, Kelley, Clibborn, Jinkins, Roberts and Hurst).

Brief History: Passed House: 2/09/12, 96-0.

Committee Activity: Health & Long-Term Care: 2/16/12.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & LONG-TERM CARE

Staff: Veronica Warnock (786-7490)

Background: Physical therapy is the examination and evaluation of individuals that have functional limitations in movement in order to determine a therapeutic plan and assess ongoing intervention. Physical therapy may only be performed by a physical therapist or by a physical therapist assistant acting under the physical therapists's direction. However, a person pursuing a degree as a physical therapist assistant who is satisfying supervised clinical education requirements is exempt from these physical therapy licensure requirements while under the direct supervision of a licensed physical therapist.

Summary of Bill: In addition to a physical therapist, a physical therapist assistant may supervise physical therapist assistant students who are completing their clinical education requirements.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

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