

**As Reported by the House Health Committee**

**132nd General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2017-2018**

**Sub. H. B. No. 131**

**Representatives Gavarone, Reineke**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Blessing, Lepore-Hagan**

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**A BILL**

To amend section 4755.40 of the Revised Code to  
modify the laws governing the practice of  
physical therapy.

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**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 4755.40 of the Revised Code be  
amended to read as follows:

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**Sec. 4755.40.** As used in sections 4755.40 to 4755.56 and  
4755.99 of the Revised Code:

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(A) "Physical therapy" means the evaluation and treatment  
of a person by physical measures and the use of therapeutic  
exercises and rehabilitative procedures, with or without  
assistive devices, for the purpose of preventing, correcting, or  
alleviating ~~any disability~~ physical impairments, functional  
limitations, and physical disabilities. ~~If~~

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All of the following apply to "physical therapy":

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(1) "Physical therapy" includes the establishment and  
modification of physical therapy programs, treatment planning,  
patient education and instruction, and consultative services.

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(2) In the evaluation of a person, "physical therapy" 18  
includes determining a physical therapy diagnosis in order to 19  
treat the person's physical impairments, functional limitations, 20  
and physical disabilities; determining a prognosis; and 21  
determining a plan of therapeutic intervention. 22

(3) If performed by a person who is adequately trained, 23  
"physical therapy" includes ~~all of the following:~~ 24

~~(1) The the design, fabrication, and revision of various~~ 25  
~~assistive devices, and the provision of education,~~ and 26  
instruction in the use of ~~various assistive those devices,~~ 27  
including braces, splints, ambulatory or locomotion devices, 28  
wheelchairs, prosthetics, and orthotics~~†.~~ 29

~~(2) The~~ (4) "Physical therapy" includes the administration 30  
of topical drugs that have been prescribed by a licensed health 31  
professional authorized to prescribe drugs, as defined in 32  
section 4729.01 of the Revised Code~~†.~~ 33

~~(3) The establishment and modification of physical therapy~~ 34  
~~programs, treatment planning, patient education and instruction,~~ 35  
~~and consultative services.~~ 36

~~(4) Physiotherapy.~~ 37

(5) "Physical therapy" does not include either of the 38  
following: 39

(a) The use of electricity for cauterization or other 40  
surgical purposes; 41

(b) The use of Roentgen rays or radium for diagnostic or 42  
therapeutic purposes. 43

(B) "Physical therapy diagnosis" means a judgment that is 44  
made after examining the neuromusculoskeletal system or 45

evaluating or studying its symptoms and that utilizes the 46  
techniques and science of physical therapy to establish a plan 47  
of therapeutic intervention. "Physical therapy diagnosis" does 48  
not include a medical diagnosis. 49

(C) "Physical measures" include massage and other manual 50  
therapy techniques, heat, cold, air, light, water, electricity 51  
except as provided in division (A) (5) (a) of this section, sound, 52  
and the performance of tests of neuromuscular function as an aid 53  
to ~~such the provision of~~ treatment. 54

~~Physical therapy does not include the medical diagnosis of~~ 55  
~~a patient's disability, the use of Roentgen rays or radium for~~ 56  
~~diagnostic or therapeutic purposes, or the use of electricity~~ 57  
~~for cauterization or other surgical purposes.~~ 58

~~(B) (D)~~ "Physical therapist" means a person who practices 59  
or provides patient education and instruction in physical 60  
therapy and includes a . 61

(E) "Physiotherapy" and "physiotherapist" are the same as 62  
"physical therapy" and "physical therapist," respectively. 63

~~(C) (F)~~ "Physical therapist assistant" means a person who 64  
assists in the provision of physical therapy treatments, 65  
including the provision of patient education and instruction, 66  
under the supervision of a physical therapist. 67

~~(D) (G)~~ "Supervision" means the availability and 68  
responsibility of the supervisor for direction of the actions of 69  
the person supervised. 70

**Section 2.** That existing section 4755.40 of the Revised 71  
Code is hereby repealed. 72