Testimony re: Dry Needling Rules and Regs

Joint Committee on Administrative Rules and Regulations

Presented by Susie Harms

On behalf of

Kansas Physical Therapy Association

January 3, 2017

Dear Members of the Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules and Regulations,

My name is Susie Harms and I serve as the president of the Kansas Physical Therapy Association representing nearly 2800 licensed physical therapists in Kansas.

I am submitting testimony in support of the following three regulations:

K.A.R. 100-29-18. Dry Needling; education and practice requirements.

K.A.R. 100-29-19. Dry Needling; informed consent.

K.A.R. 100-29-20. Dry Needling; recordkeeping

As a requirement of 2016 HB 2615 which clarified dry needling as within the scope of practice of PTs in Kansas, the Board of Healing Arts was charged with promulgating rules and regulations pertaining to physical therapists who utilize dry needling within their treatment plan to manage pain and movement impairments.

The regulations you review today were well researched and the results of a collaborative effort of multiple disciplines on the

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Physical Therapy Advisory Council (PTAC) including physical therapists, a chiropractor and an orthopedic surgeon. PTAC was created by statute to advice the Board of Healing Arts on professional issues. The regulations protect the public by describing the necessary physical therapist's skills that demonstrate professional competency, identify appropriate courses and instructors as well as addressing informed consent and the required record keeping. The KPTA believes the emphasis on demonstrating competency versus attendance at a prescriptive number of course hours provides the best outcomes and promotes the best public health and safety.

I urge you to accept the three dry needling regulations as submitted.

Respectfully,

Susie Harms PT, MHS

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