

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 159

BY REPRESENTATIVE STAGNI AND SENATORS BARROW, BOUDREAUX,
DUPLESSIS, JACKSON-ANDREWS, JENKINS, KLEINPETER, LUNEAU,
MCMATH, MILLER, AND PRICE

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 37:2418(F)(1) and (2), relative to the practice of physical therapist assistants; to provide for the supervision of physical therapist assistants and unlicensed supportive personnel; to repeal the requirement for documented conferences between a physical therapist and a physical therapist assistant; to provide for the treatment and reassessment of patients; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 37:2418(F)(1) and (2) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§2418. Authority to practice as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant

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F.(1) A person licensed ~~under~~ pursuant to this Chapter as a physical therapist assistant shall perform treatments only under the direction and supervision of a licensed physical therapist. The duties assigned to the physical therapist assistant shall be commensurate with the physical therapist assistant's education, training, and experience.

(2) Notwithstanding any provision of law or rule to the contrary, the supervision requirements of a physical therapist assistant shall only be the following:

(a) It is the responsibility of each physical therapist to determine the number of physical ~~therapist assistants~~ therapy supportive personnel he can supervise safely; however, in no case shall the number of individuals supervised by a physical therapist exceed ~~five~~ six individuals, ~~nor exceed the following limitations as to supervised personnel:~~

~~(i) No more than four physical therapist assistants or technicians or any combination thereof.~~

~~(ii) No more than two provisional licensees.~~

~~(iii) No more than five students.~~

(b) A supervising physical therapist is responsible for and shall participate in the patient's care.

(c) A supervising physical therapist shall be readily accessible by ~~beeper or telephone~~ telecommunication and available to the patient by the next scheduled treatment session upon request of the patient or physical therapist assistant.

(d) A physical therapist assistant's duties shall not include interpretation or implementation of referrals or prescriptions, performance of evaluations, or the determination or major modification of treatment programs.

(e) ~~A supervising physical therapist shall hold documented conferences with the physical therapist assistant regarding the patient. The physical therapist is responsible for determining the frequency of the conferences consistent with accepted standards of practice; however, such conferences shall occur at least every sixth treatment day or every thirty days, whichever occurs first.~~

(f) A supervising physical therapist shall treat and reassess the patient at least every ~~sixth~~ twelfth treatment day or every thirty days, ~~whichever occurs first and for~~ his final treatment session, when feasible.

~~(g) A supervising physical therapist shall treat the patient for his final treatment session when feasible and write a discharge summary.~~

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____