2016 Regular Session

#### SENATE BILL NO. 291

### BY SENATORS MILLS, BARROW, BOUDREAUX, BROWN, COLOMB, DONAHUE, GATTI, LAFLEUR, LONG, MILKOVICH, MORRELL, PEACOCK, PETERSON AND TARVER

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact R.S. 37:2418(B) and the introductory paragraph of 2418(C) and
3	2420(B) and (C), relative to the practice of physical therapy; to authorize
4	implementation of physical therapy services in certain circumstances; to provide for
5	disciplinary action; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related
6	matters.
7	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
8	Section 1. R.S. 37:2418(B) and the introductory paragraph of 2418(C) and 2420(B)
9	and (C) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
10	§2418. Authority to practice as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant
11	* * *
12	B.(1) Without prescription or referral, a physical therapist may perform an
13	initial evaluation or consultation of a screening nature to determine the need for
14	physical therapy and may perform physical therapy or other services provided in
15	Subsection C of this Section. However, implementation of physical therapy
16	treatment shall otherwise be based on the prescription or referral of a person licensed
17	to practice medicine, surgery, dentistry, podiatry, or chiropractic.
18	(2)(a) For the treatment of a condition within the scope of physical
19	therapy, other than under the circumstances provided for in Subsection C of
20	this Section, a physical therapist may implement physical therapy treatment
21	with or without a prescription or referral of a person licensed to practice
22	medicine, surgery, dentistry, podiatry, or chiropractic if the physical therapist
23	meets one of the following criteria:
24	(i) The physical therapist has a doctorate degree in physical therapy
25	from an accredited institution.

Page 1 of 2 Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.

1	(ii) The physical therapist has five years of licensed clinical practice
2	experience.
3	(b) If, after thirty calendar days of implementing physical therapy
4	treatment pursuant to this Paragraph, the patient has not made measurable or
5	functional improvement, the physical therapist shall refer the patient to an
6	appropriate healthcare provider. The board shall take appropriate disciplinary
7	action against any physical therapist who fails to refer a patient pursuant to this
8	Paragraph.
9	(3) No physical therapist shall render a medical diagnosis of a disease.
10	(4)(a) The provisions of this Section shall not be construed to have any
11	effect on the provisions of R.S. 23:1121 or R.S. 23:1203.1.
12	(b) The provisions of this Section shall not be construed to have any
12 13	(b) The provisions of this Section shall not be construed to have any effect on the monetary limit provided for in R.S. 23:1142.
13	effect on the monetary limit provided for in R.S. 23:1142.
13 14	effect on the monetary limit provided for in R.S. 23:1142. C. Except as to an initial evaluation or consultation, as provided in
13 14 15	effect on the monetary limit provided for in R.S. 23:1142. C. Except as to an initial evaluation or consultation, as provided in Subsection B of this Section, physical <u>Physical</u> therapy services may be performed
13 14 15 16	effect on the monetary limit provided for in R.S. 23:1142. C. Except as to an initial evaluation or consultation, as provided in Subsection B of this Section, physical Physical therapy services may be performed without a prescription or by referral only under <u>any of</u> the following circumstances:
13 14 15 16 17	effect on the monetary limit provided for in R.S. 23:1142.C. Except as to an initial evaluation or consultation, as provided inSubsection B of this Section, physical Physical therapy services may be performedwithout a prescription or $by$ referral only under any of the following circumstances:* * *
13 14 15 16 17 18	effect on the monetary limit provided for in R.S. 23:1142.C. Except as to an initial evaluation or consultation, as provided in Subsection B of this Section, physical Physical therapy services may be performed without a prescription or by referral only under any of the following circumstances:****Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
<ol> <li>13</li> <li>14</li> <li>15</li> <li>16</li> <li>17</li> <li>18</li> <li>19</li> </ol>	effect on the monetary limit provided for in R.S. 23:1142.C. Except as to an initial evaluation or consultation, as provided in Subsection B of this Section, physical Physical therapy services may be performed without a prescription or by referral only under any of the following circumstances:****Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature

# PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

## SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Page 2 of 2 Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.