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## DIGEST

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HB 159 Engrossed

2025 Regular Session

Stagni

**Abstract:** Makes changes to the practice of physical therapist assistants.

Present law outlines the supervisory responsibilities of a physical therapist as it relates to physical therapist assistants and unlicensed supportive personnel.

Present law provides for the number of physical therapist assistants and supervised personnel a physical therapist may safely supervise.

Proposed law allows a physical therapist to determine the number of physical therapy supportive personnel he can supervise. A physical therapist, however, is limited to six individuals.

Present law requires a physical therapist to be readily accessible and provides for methods of accessibility by a physical therapist including a beeper or telephone.

Proposed law modifies present law requiring a physical therapist to be accessible by telecommunication.

Present law requires that a supervising physical therapist conduct documented conferences with the physical therapist assistant regarding patients. It also gives discretion to the physical therapist to determine the frequency of these conferences but at a minimum, requires a conference at least every sixth treatment day or every 30 days, whichever occurs first.

Proposed law repeals present law requirements.

Present law requires a supervising physical therapist to treat and reassess a patient at least every sixth treatment day or every 30 days, whichever occurs first.

Proposed law changes present law requiring a supervising physical therapist to treat and reassess a patient at least every 12th treatment day or every 30 days.

Present law requires a supervising physical therapist to treat a patient for his final treatment session when feasible.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law requires a supervising physical therapist to write a discharge summary.

Proposed law repeals present law.

(Amends R.S. 37:2418(F)(1) and (2))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill:

1. Replace "therapist assistants" and "unlicensed supportive personnel" with the term "therapy supportive personnel".
2. Provide that it is the responsibility of each physical therapist to determine the number of therapy supportive personnel he can safely supervise but, in no case, shall the number of individuals supervised exceed six individuals.
3. Add that a supervising physical therapist shall treat and reassess a patient every 12th treatment day or every 30 days and for the patient's final treatment session.