## DIGEST

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Brown HB No. 569

**Abstract:** Eliminates restrictions on performance of physical therapy services without a prescription or referral.

<u>Present law</u> provides that except under certain circumstances as specified in <u>present law</u>, physical therapy treatment may only be implemented based on the prescription or referral of a person licensed to practice medicine, surgery, dentistry, podiatry, or chiropractic.

<u>Proposed law</u> revises <u>present law</u> to provide that a physical therapist may render physical therapy treatment with or without a type of prescription or referral provided for in <u>present law</u>.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> which provides that physical therapy services performed without a prescription or referral from a person licensed to practice medicine, surgery, dentistry, podiatry, or chiropractic shall not be construed as any of the following:

- (1) Mandating coverage for physical therapy services under any health care plan, insurance policy, or workers' compensation plan.
- (2) Circumventing any requirement for preauthorization of services in accordance with any health care plan, insurance policy, or workers' compensation plan.

<u>Proposed law</u> repeals provisions of <u>present law</u> which become inapplicable pursuant to <u>proposed law</u>.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 37:2418(B); Repeals R.S. 37:2418(C) and (D))