

## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## HOUSE BILL

No. 1251 Session of  
2025

INTRODUCED BY CURRY, HILL-EVANS, WAXMAN, GUZMAN, PIELLI, OTTEN,  
CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, CERRATO, PROBST, BOROWSKI, RIVERA, MAYES,  
HOHENSTEIN, SHUSTERMAN, SANCHEZ, GREEN AND SAMUELSON,  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

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AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, OCTOBER 28, 2025

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## AN ACT

1 Amending the act of October 10, 1975 (P.L.383, No.110), entitled  
2 "An act relating to the practice of physical therapy,"  
3 further providing for DEFINITIONS AND FOR practice of  
4 physical therapy. <--

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 ~~Section 1. Section 9(a) of the act of October 10, 1975~~ <--  
8 ~~(P.L.383, No.110), known as the Physical Therapy Practice Act,~~  
9 ~~is amended to read:~~

10 SECTION 1. THE DEFINITION OF "PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT" IN <--  
11 SECTION 2 OF THE ACT OF OCTOBER 10, 1975 (P.L.383, NO.110),  
12 KNOWN AS THE PHYSICAL THERAPY PRACTICE ACT, IS AMENDED AND THE  
13 SECTION IS AMENDED BY ADDING A DEFINITION TO READ:

14 SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS.--THE FOLLOWING DEFINITIONS SHALL  
15 APPLY, WHEN USED IN THIS ACT, UNLESS OTHERWISE EXPRESSED  
16 THEREIN:

17 \* \* \*

1       "MIDWIFE" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL LICENSED UNDER THE ACT OF  
2       DECEMBER 20, 1985 (P.L.457, NO.112), KNOWN AS THE "MEDICAL  
3       PRACTICE ACT OF 1985."

4       \* \* \*

5       "PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL AS DEFINED IN THE  
6       ACT OF OCTOBER 5, 1978 (P.L.1109, NO.261), KNOWN AS THE  
7       "OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL PRACTICE ACT," OR THE [ACT OF DECEMBER 20,  
8       1985 (P.L.457, NO.112), KNOWN AS THE] "MEDICAL PRACTICE ACT OF  
9       1985."

10      \* \* \*

11      SECTION 2. SECTION 9(A) OF THE ACT IS AMENDED TO READ:

12      Section 9. Practice of Physical Therapy.--(a) Except as  
13      provided in subsection (b), no individual licensed under this  
14      act as a physical therapist shall treat human ailments by  
15      physical therapy or otherwise except by the referral of an  
16      individual licensed as a physician, a licensed physician  
17      assistant practicing pursuant to a written agreement with a  
18      physician or a certified registered nurse practitioner  
19      practicing pursuant to a collaborative agreement with a  
20      physician; however, a physical therapist shall be permitted to  
21      accept the referral of a licensed dentist [or], a podiatrist[, or]  
22      certified nurse midwife for the treatment of a condition that is <--  
23      within the scope of practice of dentistry [or], a podiatry or  
24      midwifery. Nothing in this act shall be construed as  
25      authorization for a physical therapist to practice any branch of  
26      the healing arts except as described in this act. For purposes  
27      of this section, relating to referrals, a licensed physician,  
28      dentist [or], a podiatrist or certified nurse midwife means an      <--  
29      individual holding an active license in this Commonwealth, the  
30      District of Columbia or any other state or United States

1 territory.

2 \* \* \*

3 Section 2 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.

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