

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

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

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], podiatrist[,] or
22 certified nurse midwife for the treatment of a condition that is <--
23 within the scope of practice of dentistry [or], 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], 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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