IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 505

BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO PHYSICAL THERAPY; AMENDING CHAPTER 22, TITLE 54, IDAHO CODE, BY
THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 54-2225, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR THE
PRACTICE OF DRY NEEDLING BY A PHYSICAL THERAPIST AND TO AUTHORIZE RULE-
MAKING; AND AMENDING SECTION 54-2203, IDAHO CODE, TO DEFINE A TERM AND
TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Chapter 22, Title 54, Idaho Code, be, and the same is
hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and des-
ignated as Section 54-2225, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

54-2225. PRACTICE OF DRY NEEDLING. (1) A physical therapist may per-
form dry needling, as defined in section 54-2203, Idaho Code, if the physical
therapist has successfully completed minimum education and training re-
quirements as determined by the board from a course in dry needling approved
by the federation of state boards of physical therapy or another nationally
recognized accrediting body of physical therapy that is approved by the
board.

(2) The board shall have the power to promulgate rules that are neces-
sary to carry out the provisions of this section.

SECTION 2. That Section 54-2203, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
amended to read as follows:

54-2203. DEFINITIONS. As used in this chapter:

(1) "Applicant" means a person applying for a license or permit under
this chapter.

(2) "Board" means the Idaho physical therapy licensure board.

(3) "Bureau" means the bureau of occupational licenses.

(4) "Department" means the department of self-governing agencies.

(5) "Dry needling" means a skilled intervention performed by a phys-
ical therapist that uses a thin filiform needle to penetrate the skin and
stimulate underlying neural, muscular and connective tissues for the eval-
uation and management of neuromusculoskeletal conditions, pain and movement
impairments.

(6) "License" means a document issued by the board to a person under
this chapter authorizing the person to practice as a physical therapist or
physical therapist assistant.

(7) "Physical therapist" means a person licensed under the provisions
of this chapter to engage in the practice of physical therapy.

(8) "Physical therapist assistant" means a person who meets the re-
quirements of this chapter and who performs physical therapy procedures and
related tasks that have been selected and delegated only by a supervising
physical therapist.

(89) "Physical therapy" means the care and services provided by or un-
der the direction and supervision of a physical therapist.

(90) The "Practice of physical therapy" means the exercise of the
profession of physical therapy by a person who engages in the following
health care activities:

(a) Examining, evaluating and testing individuals with mechanical,
physiological and developmental impairments, functional limitations,
and disability or other health and movement-related conditions in or-
der to determine a diagnosis for physical therapy and prognosis for
physical therapy, plan of therapeutic intervention, and to assess the
ongoing effects of intervention.

(b) Alleviating impairments and functional limitations by designing,
implementing and modifying therapeutic interventions that include,
but are not limited to: therapeutic exercise; functional mobility
training in self-care and in-home, community or work reintegration;
manual therapy; assistive, adaptive, protective and supportive de-
vices and equipment; bronchopulmonary hygiene; debridement and wound
care; physical agents or modalities; mechanical and electrotherapeutic
modalities; and patient-related instruction; and to reduce the risk of
injury, impairment, functional limitation, and disability, including
the promotion and maintenance of fitness, health, and quality of life in
all age populations. The practice of physical therapy shall not include
the use of radiology, surgery or medical diagnosis of disease;

(c) Engaging in administration, consultation, testing, education and
research as related to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection.

(101) "Supportive personnel" means a person or persons trained under
the direction of a physical therapist who performs designated and supervised
routine physical therapy tasks.