

HOUSE BILL NO. 454

INTRODUCED BY M. THIEL, L. BENNETT, A. REGIER, J. ETCHART, V. MOORE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING THE FREQUENCY OF PATIENT VISITS REQUIRED BY A LICENSED PHYSICAL THERAPIST WHEN SUPERVISING A PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSISTANT; AND AMENDING SECTION 37-11-105, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 37-11-105, MCA, is amended to read:

"37-11-105. Supervision of physical therapist assistant, physical therapy aide, physical therapy student, or physical therapist assistant student. (1) A physical therapist assistant shall practice under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist who is responsible for and participates in a patient's care. This supervision requires the licensed physical therapist to make an onsite visit or a visit by means of telehealth to the client at least once for every ~~six~~ eight visits made by the assistant or once every ~~2-weeks~~ 30 days, whichever occurs first.

(2) A licensed physical therapist may not concurrently supervise more than two full-time assistants or the equivalent. This supervision does not require the presence of the assistant.

(3) A physical therapy aide shall practice under the onsite supervision of a licensed physical therapist or a licensed assistant. A licensed assistant may not concurrently supervise more than one full-time aide or the equivalent. A licensed physical therapist may not concurrently supervise more than four aides or the equivalent or two assistants and two aides or the equivalent.

(4) A physical therapy student or physical therapist assistant student shall practice with the onsite supervision of a licensed physical therapist."

NEW SECTION. SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. [THIS ACT] IS EFFECTIVE ON PASSAGE AND APPROVAL.

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