

HCS SCS SB 1181 -- PHYSICAL THERAPISTS

This bill changes the laws regarding the licensing of physical therapists and physical therapy assistants. Persons having failed the physical therapy or physical therapist assistant licensing exam three or more times may be licensed by the State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts if they hold an unsanctioned license from another state and have maintained a clinical practice for the previous three years. Persons having failed the physical therapy licensing exam three or more times and not holding a license from another state may take the licensing exam three additional times if they have obtained a professional degree in physical therapy at a higher level than previously completed.

Temporary licenses for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants will only be valid for 90 days or until the results of the licensing exam are received.

The bill also makes it a cause for discipline when a licensed physical therapist practices independent of the prescription and direction of a physician, dentist, or podiatrist licensed in another state.