

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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December 13, 1957

To Adam P. Leighton, M.D., Secretary, Board of Registration of Medicine
Re: Chiropractors Holding Themselves out as Physical Therapists

. . . You complain that chiropractors hold themselves out as physical therapists and you ask our advice concerning your desire to write to the individuals concerned, complaining about their practice.

Quite plainly, under the law only those persons duly licensed to practice physical therapy can use the title, "Physical Therapist" or other words, letters, signs or figures which indicate that the person using the same is a licensed physical therapist.

You have noticed perhaps that, although the use of such titles by unauthorized persons is prohibited, yet the only section which specifically mentions a penalty is contained in Section 11 and applies only to violations of that section and does not, in such section, include the illegal title "Physical Therapist". For this reason, if it reaches the point where violations continue, the matter is one that should receive careful attention from the County Attorney, so that he might decide what penalty attaches to the violation.

Certainly it is appropriate to write to the individuals who are improperly using the terms above referred to, advising them of the new law enacted by Chapter 271 of the Public Laws of 1955 and requesting that they cease the practice.

James G. Frost
Deputy Attorney General

jgf/m