

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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January 16, 1958

To Harry M. Burry, D. C., Secretary, Board of Chiropractic Registration
Re: Title of Physical Therapist

We have your letters of December 24th and 27th, the question in each of which relates to the right of a licensee under the Maine Chiropractic Law to use the title "physical therapist" or other similar words indicating that the person using the same is a licensed physical therapist.

It is our opinion that Chapter 271 (adding a new chapter, 67-A, to the Revised Statutes), Section 7, of the Public Laws of 1955, clearly prohibits the use of the term "physical therapist" or other similar terms by any person not a licensed therapist.

It does appear from an examination of the laws relating to chiropractors that certain of their techniques utilize some measures of physical therapy, and it is therefore understandable that, administratively, a reasonable time should be granted in which those chiropractors in apparent violation of the law could conform to the 1955 act.

It is possible that the relationship between the two professions is such that a provision of the law in question should be amended so that use by chiropractors of such terms would not be a violation of law. This, however, is for your consideration and that of the legislature. Presently, the law appears to prohibit the practice above mentioned.

James Glynn Frost
Deputy Attorney General

jgf/c