



# 115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

# FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

## No. 493

S.P. 184

In Senate, February 8, 1991

Reference to the Committee on Business Legislation suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CLARK of Cumberland Cosponsored by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot, Representative SHELTRA of Biddeford and Representative LEBOWITZ of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

An Act to Improve Consumer Access to Physical Therapy Services.

Printed on recycled paper

#### Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

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32 MRSA §3113, 3rd  $\P$ , as amended by PL 1983, c. 468, §10, is further amended to read:

6 Nothing in this chapter shall <u>may</u> be construed as authorizing a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant, 8 licensed or not, to practice medicine, osteopathy, dentistry, chiropractic or any other form of healing. A licensed physical 10 therapist or physical therapist assistant shall may not administer drugs or use roentgen rays or radium for diagnostic or 12 thereapeutie therapeutic purposes or electricity for surgical purposes, er--treat-human-beings-by-use-ef--physical-measures, activities-or-devices except upon the referral of a duly licensed 14 doctor of medicine, surgery, osteopathy, podiatry or dentistry. A licensed physical therapist assistant shall act only under the 16 direction of a physical therapist licensed to practice in this 18 State.

### STATEMENT OF FACT

24 The purpose of this bill is to improve consumer access to physical therapy services and reduce costs to consumers and 26 insurers by eliminating the requirement of physician referral for certain services provided by licensed physical therapists. The 28 bill allows consumers to have access to physical therapy services without a physician's referral.

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