

MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members

FROM: Rep. Tony Payton

DATE: March 25, 2011

SUBJECT: Co-Sponsorship of Legislation: Amending the Acupuncture Registration Act

In the near future I will be re-introducing House Bill 1764, P.N. 3881 of 2009. This legislation will amend the Acupuncture Registration Act to add a section that would allow acupuncturists to perform acupuncture on a person without a medical diagnosis if the person does not present symptoms of a condition. In addition, my legislation would require licensed acupuncturists to maintain professional liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$1,000,000 per occurrence or claim made.

Currently, an acupuncturist may treat a person's condition without the condition being diagnosed by a licensed physician, dentist, or podiatrist for 60 days from the date of the first treatment. An acupuncturist may treat a person's condition beyond the 60 days if the person obtains a diagnosis of the treated condition from a licensed physician, dentist or podiatrist. Furthermore, licensed acupuncturists are not required to carry liability insurance.

Many Pennsylvanians seek treatment from acupuncturists every year. My legislation seeks to provide patients greater access to this medical practice, while providing another layer of protection for both the patient and the acupuncturist. House Bill 1764 of last session was amended in the House Professional Licensure Committee with language agreed to by all interested parties. This legislation also passed the House last session unanimously.

If you would like to join me in co-sponsoring this legislation, please contact Tajuanna Wallace at 787-1354, or via email at twallace@pahouse.net.

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