
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 559 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY BAKER, MUTH, SCHWANK, BARTOLOTTA, ROTHMAN,
CAPPELLETTI AND BROWN, MARCH 28, 2023

REFERRED TO CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE,
MARCH 28, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of December 20, 1985 (P.L.457, No.112),
2 entitled "An act relating to the right to practice medicine
3 and surgery and the right to practice medically related acts;
4 reestablishing the State Board of Medical Education and
5 Licensure as the State Board of Medicine and providing for
6 its composition, powers and duties; providing for the
7 issuance of licenses and certificates and the suspension and
8 revocation of licenses and certificates; provided penalties;
9 and making repeals," further providing for definitions.

10 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
11 hereby enacts as follows:

12 Section 1. The definitions of "athletic training services"
13 and "physically active person" in section 2 of the act of
14 December 20, 1985 (P.L.457, No.112), known as the Medical
15 Practice Act of 1985, are amended to read:

16 Section 2. Definitions.

17 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
18 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
19 context clearly indicates otherwise:

20 * * *

21 "Athletic training services."

1 (1) The management and provision of care of injuries to
2 a physically active person as defined in this act with the
3 direction of a licensed physician. The term includes the
4 rendering of emergency care, development of injury prevention
5 programs and providing appropriate preventative and
6 supporting devices for the physically active person. The term
7 also includes the assessment, management, treatment,
8 rehabilitation and reconditioning of the physically active
9 person whose conditions are within the professional
10 preparation and education of a licensed athletic trainer. The
11 term also includes the use of modalities such as mechanical
12 stimulation, heat, cold, light, air, water, electricity,
13 sound, massage and the use of therapeutic exercises,
14 reconditioning exercise and fitness programs.

15 (2) Athletic training services shall not include
16 [surgery, invasive procedures or prescription of any
17 controlled substance] any of the following:

18 (i) Surgery.

19 (ii) Prescription of any controlled substance.

20 (iii) Invasive procedures, except an athletic
21 trainer licensed to practice may, with the direction of a
22 licensed physician, perform the following invasive
23 procedures pursuant to a written protocol:

24 (A) Rectal thermometry.

25 (B) Intramuscular or subcutaneous medication
26 administration injections.

27 (C) Airway adjuncts in conformity with basic
28 life support protocols and instruments.

29 (D) Capillary finger sticks for the purpose of
30 testing blood glucose levels.

- 1 (E) Nasal plugs.
- 2 (F) Blister and nail care.
- 3 (G) Administration of naloxone.
- 4 (H) Removal of superficial foreign bodies.
- 5 (I) Any other procedures authorized by the
- 6 board.

7 (3) Nothing in this definition shall be construed to
8 require a licensed physician to authorize a licensed athletic
9 trainer to perform invasive procedures.

10 * * *

11 "Physically active person." An individual who [participates
12 in organized, individual or team sports, athletic games or
13 recreational sport activity.] engages in an activity associated
14 with exercise, sports, recreation or vocation that requires a
15 level of strength, endurance, flexibility, range of motion,
16 speed or agility.

17 * * *

18 Section 2. The provisions of 49 Pa. Code Ch. 18 Subch. H are
19 abrogated insofar as they are inconsistent with the amendment of
20 the definitions of "athletic training services" and "physically
21 active person" in section 2 of the act.

22 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.