

SENATE BILL NO. 501

August 13, 2025, Introduced by Senator SANTANA and referred to Committee on Health Policy.

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled
"Public health code,"
by amending sections 16335, 17801, and 17821 (MCL 333.16335,
333.17801, and 333.17821), as amended by 2009 PA 55, and by adding
sections 17820a and 17820b.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 16335. **(1)** Fees for ~~a person~~**an individual** licensed or
2 seeking licensure to engage in the practice of physical therapy or
3 practice as a physical therapist assistant under part 178 are as

1 follows:

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|----------|
| 2 | (a) Application processing fee | \$ 20.00 |
| 3 | (b) Examination fees: | |
| 4 | Jurisprudence examination only | 25.00 |
| 5 | (c) License fee, per year | 90.00 |
| 6 | (d) Limited license, per year | 25.00 |

7 **(2) The fee for an individual seeking to hold a compact**
 8 **privilege under the physical therapy licensure compact enacted in**
 9 **section 16187a is \$90.00 per year.**

10 Sec. 17801. (1) As used in this part:

11 (a) "Physical therapist" means an individual **who is** licensed
 12 under this article **or authorized under section 17820a** to engage in
 13 the practice of physical therapy.

14 (b) "Physical therapist assistant" means an individual with a
 15 health profession subfield license under this part, **or who is**
 16 **authorized under section 17820b to engage in practice as a physical**
 17 **therapist assistant**, who assists a physical therapist in physical
 18 therapy intervention.

19 (c) **"Physical therapy licensure compact" means the physical**
 20 **therapy licensure compact enacted in section 16187a.**

21 (d) ~~(e)~~—"Practice as physical therapist assistant" means the
 22 practice of physical therapy performed under the supervision of a
 23 physical therapist licensed under this part.

24 (e) ~~(d)~~—"Practice of physical therapy" means the evaluation
 25 of, education of, consultation with, or treatment of an individual
 26 by the employment of effective properties of physical measures and
 27 the use of therapeutic exercises and rehabilitative procedures,
 28 with or without assistive devices, for the purpose of preventing,
 29 correcting, or alleviating a physical or mental disability.

1 Physical therapy includes treatment planning, performance of tests
2 and measurements, interpretation of referrals, initiation of
3 referrals, instruction, consultative services, and supervision of
4 personnel. Physical measures include massage, mobilization, heat,
5 cold, air, light, water, electricity, and sound. Practice of
6 physical therapy does not include the identification of underlying
7 medical problems or etiologies, establishment of medical diagnoses,
8 or the prescribing of treatment.

9 (2) In addition to the definitions in this part, article 1
10 contains general definitions and principles of construction
11 applicable to all articles in this code and part 161 contains
12 definitions applicable to this part.

13 **Sec. 17820a. (1) An individual who holds a compact privilege**
14 **to practice as a physical therapist under the physical therapy**
15 **licensure compact is authorized to engage in the practice of**
16 **physical therapy under this article.**

17 (2) For purposes of this article, including the obligations of
18 an individual who is licensed as a physical therapist, an
19 individual who holds a compact privilege to practice as a physical
20 therapist under the physical therapy licensure compact is
21 considered a physical therapist who is licensed under this part.

22 **Sec. 17820b. (1) An individual who holds a compact privilege**
23 **to work as a physical therapist assistant under the physical**
24 **therapy licensure compact is authorized to engage in practice as a**
25 **physical therapist assistant under this article under the**
26 **supervision of a physical therapist.**

27 (2) For purposes of this article, including the obligations of
28 an individual who is licensed as a physical therapist assistant, an
29 individual who holds a compact privilege to work as a physical

1 **therapist assistant under the physical therapy licensure compact is**
2 **considered a physical therapist assistant who is licensed under**
3 **this part.**

4 Sec. 17821. (1) The Michigan board of physical therapy is
5 created in the department and shall consist of the following 11
6 voting members who ~~shall~~**must** meet the requirements of part 161: 6
7 physical therapists, 1 physical therapist assistant, and 4 public
8 members.

9 (2) The terms of office of the individual members of the board
10 created under this section, except those appointed to fill
11 vacancies, expire 4 years after appointment on December 31 of the
12 year in which the term expires.

13 **(3) The board shall select the director to act as this state's**
14 **delegate for purposes of the physical therapy licensure compact.**

15 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 1 year
16 after the date it is enacted into law.

17 Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect
18 unless House Bill No. 4101 of the 103rd Legislature is enacted into
19 law.