

Reprinted

FILED JAN 21 1991

SENATE FILE 48  
BY SZYMONIAK

(COMPANION TO LSB 1723HH  
BY BEATTY)

Passed Senate, Date 3/26/91 (p. 202) Passed House, Date 4/17/91 (p. 1305)  
Vote: Ayes 44 Nays 4 Vote: Ayes 93 Nays 2  
Approved June 4, 1991

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to professional titles and abbreviations of  
2 physical therapists and physical therapist assistants, and  
3 licensure, examination fees, and conditions of practice of  
4 physical therapist assistants.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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SF48

1 Section 1. Section 147.74, unnumbered paragraph 8, Code  
2 1991, is amended by striking the paragraph and inserting in  
3 lieu thereof the following:

4 A physical therapist registered or licensed under chapter  
5 148A may use the words "physical therapist" after the person's  
6 name or signify the same by the use of the letters "P.T."  
7 after the person's name.

8 Sec. 2. Section 147.80, Code 1991, is amended by adding  
9 the following new subsection:

10 NEW SUBSECTION. 8A. License to practice as a physical  
11 therapist assistant issued on the basis of an examination  
12 given by the board of physical and occupational therapy  
13 examiners, license to practice as a physical therapist  
14 assistant issued under a reciprocal agreement, renewal of a  
15 license to practice as a physical therapist assistant.

16 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 148A.6 PHYSICAL THERAPIST  
17 ASSISTANT.

18 1. A person shall not practice as a physical therapist  
19 assistant unless the person has obtained from the department a  
20 license for that purpose.

21 2. Patient care provided by licensed physical therapist  
22 assistants shall be directed and supervised by a licensed  
23 physical therapist under conditions defined by the board of  
24 physical and occupational therapy examiners.

25 3. Each applicant for a license to practice as a physical  
26 therapist assistant shall:

27 a. Successfully complete a course of study for the  
28 physical therapist assistant accredited by the commission on  
29 accreditation in education of the American physical therapy  
30 association, or another appropriate accrediting body, and meet  
31 other requirements established by the rules of the board of  
32 physical and occupational therapy examiners.

33 b. Have passed an examination administered by the board of  
34 physical and occupational therapy examiners.

35 c. Have the right to petition for waiver of education

1 requirements under conditions defined by the board of physical  
2 and occupational therapy examiners.

3 EXPLANATION

4 This bill allows a licensed physical therapist to use the  
5 words "physical therapist" or the letters "P.T." after the  
6 person's name. The bill also provides for licensure,  
7 examination, and fee collection for physical therapist  
8 assistants.

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S-3103

1 Amend Senate File 48 as follows:

2 1. Page 1, by striking lines 18 through 20 and  
3 inserting the following:

4 "1. A person shall not use the title "physical  
5 therapist assistant" or the letters "PTA", or  
6 represent to the public that the person is a physical  
7 therapist assistant, unless the person has obtained  
8 from the department a license pursuant to this  
9 section."

10 2. Page 1, by striking lines 21 through 24 and  
11 inserting the following:

x 12 "2. A licensed physical therapist assistant is  
13 required to function under the direction and super-  
14 vision of a licensed physical therapist to perform  
15 physical therapy procedures delegated and supervised  
16 by the licensed physical therapist in a manner con-  
17 sistent with the rules adopted by the board of  
18 physical and occupational therapy examiners. Selected  
19 and delegated tasks of physical therapist assistants  
20 may include, but are not limited to, therapeutic  
21 procedures and related tasks, routine operational  
22 functions, documentation of treatment progress, and  
23 the use of selected physical agents. The ability of  
24 the licensed physical therapist assistant to perform  
25 the selected and delegated tasks shall be assessed on  
26 an ongoing basis by the supervising physical  
27 therapist. The licensed physical therapist assistant  
28 shall not interpret referrals, perform initial  
29 evaluation or reevaluations, initiate physical therapy  
30 treatment programs, change specified treatment  
31 programs, or discharge a patient from physical therapy  
32 services."

33 3. Page 2, by inserting after line 2 the follow-  
34 ing:

35 "4. This section does not prevent a person not  
36 licensed as a physical therapist assistant from per-  
37 forming services ordinarily performed by a physical  
38 therapy aide, assistant, or technician, provided that  
39 the person does not represent to the public that the  
40 person is a licensed physical therapist assistant, or  
41 use the title "physical therapist assistant" or the  
42 letters "PTA", and provided that the person performs  
43 services consistent with the supervision requirements  
44 of the board of physical and occupational therapy  
45 examiners for persons not licensed as physical  
46 therapist assistants."

By ELAINE SZYMONIAK

S-3103 FILED MARCH 12, 1991

*Adopted 3/26 (p. 866)*

SENATE FILE 48

S-3008

1 Amend Senate File 48 as follows:  
2 1. Page 1, line 6, by striking the word "'P.T.'"  
3 and inserting the following: "'PT'".  
4 2. Page 1, by inserting after line 7, the  
5 following:  
6 "A physical therapist assistant licensed under  
7 chapter 148A may use the words "physical therapist  
8 assistant" after the person's name or signify the same  
9 by use of the letters "PTA" after the person's name."  
By ELAINE SZYMONIAK

S-3008 FILED JANUARY 24, 1991

*Adopted 3/26 (p. 766)*

SENATE FILE 48

S-3140

1 Amend the amendment, S-3103, to Senate File 48 as  
2 follows:  
3 1. Page 1, line 14, by inserting after the word  
4 "of" the following: "a person licensed to practice  
5 medicine and surgery, osteopathic medicine and  
6 surgery, osteopathy, or".  
7 2. Page 1, line 16, by inserting after the word  
8 "by" the following: "the person licensed to practice  
9 medicine and surgery, osteopathic medicine and  
10 surgery, osteopathy, or by".  
11 3. Page 1, line 26, by inserting after the word  
12 "by" the following: "the person licensed to practice  
13 medicine and surgery, osteopathic medicine and  
14 surgery, osteopathy, or by".  
By WILLIAM PALMER  
MARY E. KRAMER  
MICHAEL E. GRONSTAL  
LINN FUHRMAN

S-3140 FILED MARCH 20, 1991

*Lost 3/26*



1 Section 1. Section 147.74, unnumbered paragraph 8, Code  
2 1991, is amended by striking the paragraph and inserting in  
3 lieu thereof the following:

4 A physical therapist registered or licensed under chapter  
5 148A may use the words "physical therapist" after the person's  
6 name or signify the same by the use of the letters "PT" after  
7 the person's name.

8 A physical therapist assistant licensed under chapter 148A  
9 may use the words "physical therapist assistant" after the  
10 person's name or signify the same by use of the letters "PTA"  
11 after the person's name.

12 Sec. 2. Section 147.80, Code 1991, is amended by adding  
13 the following new subsection:

14 NEW SUBSECTION. 8A. License to practice as a physical  
15 therapist assistant issued on the basis of an examination  
16 given by the board of physical and occupational therapy  
17 examiners, license to practice as a physical therapist  
18 assistant issued under a reciprocal agreement, renewal of a  
19 license to practice as a physical therapist assistant.

20 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 148A.6 PHYSICAL THERAPIST  
21 ASSISTANT.

22 1. A person shall not use the title "physical therapist  
23 assistant" or the letters "PTA", or represent to the public  
24 that the person is a physical therapist assistant, unless the  
25 person has obtained from the department a license pursuant to  
26 this section.

27 2. A licensed physical therapist assistant is required to  
28 function under the direction and supervision of a licensed  
29 physical therapist to perform physical therapy procedures  
30 delegated and supervised by the licensed physical therapist in  
31 a manner consistent with the rules adopted by the board of  
32 physical and occupational therapy examiners. Selected and  
33 delegated tasks of physical therapist assistants may include,  
34 but are not limited to, therapeutic procedures and related  
35 tasks, routine operational functions, documentation of

1 treatment progress, and the use of selected physical agents.  
2 The ability of the licensed physical therapist assistant to  
3 perform the selected and delegated tasks shall be assessed on  
4 an ongoing basis by the supervising physical therapist. The  
5 licensed physical therapist assistant shall not interpret  
6 referrals, perform initial evaluation or reevaluations,  
7 initiate physical therapy treatment programs, change specified  
8 treatment programs, or discharge a patient from physical  
9 therapy services.

10 3. Each applicant for a license to practice as a physical  
11 therapist assistant shall:

12 a. Successfully complete a course of study for the  
13 physical therapist assistant accredited by the commission on  
14 accreditation in education of the American physical therapy  
15 association, or another appropriate accrediting body, and meet  
16 other requirements established by the rules of the board of  
17 physical and occupational therapy examiners.

18 b. Have passed an examination administered by the board of  
19 physical and occupational therapy examiners.

20 c. Have the right to petition for waiver of education  
21 requirements under conditions defined by the board of physical  
22 and occupational therapy examiners.

23 4. This section does not prevent a person not licensed as  
24 a physical therapist assistant from performing services  
25 ordinarily performed by a physical therapy aide, assistant, or  
26 technician, provided that the person does not represent to the  
27 public that the person is a licensed physical therapist  
28 assistant, or use the title "physical therapist assistant" or  
29 the letters "PTA", and provided that the person performs  
30 services consistent with the supervision requirements of the  
31 board of physical and occupational therapy examiners for  
32 persons not licensed as physical therapist assistants.

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SENATE FILE 48

AN ACT

RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL TITLES AND ABBREVIATIONS OF PHYSICAL THERAPISTS AND PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANTS, AND LICENSURE, EXAMINATION FEES, AND CONDITIONS OF PRACTICE OF PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. Section 147.74, unnumbered paragraph 8, Code 1991, is amended by striking the paragraph and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

A physical therapist registered or licensed under chapter 148A may use the words "physical therapist" after the person's name or signify the same by the use of the letters "PT" after the person's name.

A physical therapist assistant licensed under chapter 148A may use the words "physical therapist assistant" after the person's name or signify the same by use of the letters "PTA" after the person's name.

Sec. 2. Section 147.80, Code 1991, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. 8A. License to practice as a physical therapist assistant issued on the basis of an examination given by the board of physical and occupational therapy examiners, license to practice as a physical therapist assistant issued under a reciprocal agreement, renewal of a license to practice as a physical therapist assistant.

Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 148A.6 PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT.

1. A person shall not use the title "physical therapist assistant" or the letters "PTA", or represent to the public that the person is a physical therapist assistant, unless the person has obtained from the department a license pursuant to

this section.

2. A licensed physical therapist assistant is required to function under the direction and supervision of a licensed physical therapist to perform physical therapy procedures delegated and supervised by the licensed physical therapist in a manner consistent with the rules adopted by the board of physical and occupational therapy examiners. Selected and delegated tasks of physical therapist assistants may include, but are not limited to, therapeutic procedures and related tasks, routine operational functions, documentation of treatment progress, and the use of selected physical agents. The ability of the licensed physical therapist assistant to perform the selected and delegated tasks shall be assessed on an ongoing basis by the supervising physical therapist. The licensed physical therapist assistant shall not interpret referrals, perform initial evaluation or reevaluations, initiate physical therapy treatment programs, change specified treatment programs, or discharge a patient from physical therapy services.

3. Each applicant for a license to practice as a physical therapist assistant shall:

a. Successfully complete a course of study for the physical therapist assistant accredited by the commission on accreditation in education of the American physical therapy association, or another appropriate accrediting body, and meet other requirements established by the rules of the board of physical and occupational therapy examiners.

b. Have passed an examination administered by the board of physical and occupational therapy examiners.

c. Have the right to petition for waiver of education requirements under conditions defined by the board of physical and occupational therapy examiners.

4. This section does not prevent a person not licensed as a physical therapist assistant from performing services ordinarily performed by a physical therapy aide, assistant, or

technician, provided that the person does not represent to the public that the person is a licensed physical therapist assistant, or use the title "physical therapist assistant" or the letters "PTA", and provided that the person performs services consistent with the supervision requirements of the board of physical and occupational therapy examiners for persons not licensed as physical therapist assistants.

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JOE J. WELSH  
President of the Senate

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ROBERT C. ARNOULD  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that this bill originated in the Senate and is known as Senate File 48, Seventy-fourth General Assembly.

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JOHN F. DWYER  
Secretary of the Senate

Approved June 4, 1991

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TERRY E. BRANSTAD  
Governor