Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 5, 2021

SENATE BILL NO. 2122 (Senators Bekkedahl, Bakke, Kreun) (Representatives Paur, Sanford)

AN ACT to create and enact a new section to chapter 43-26.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to permitting physical therapists to order musculoskeletal medical imaging; and to amend and reenact subsection 14 of section 43-26.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the scope of practice of physical therapists.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsection 14 of section 43-26.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 14. "Practice of physical therapy" means:
 - a. Examining, evaluating, and testing individuals with mechanical, physiological, and developmental impairments, functional limitations in movement and mobility, and disabilities or other health and movement-related conditions to determine a diagnosis for physical therapy, prognosis, and plan of therapeutic intervention, and to assess the ongoing effects of intervention. The term includes ordering musculoskeletal imaging consisting of plain film radiographs to be performed by a professional authorized by chapter 43-62 and interpreted by a licensed physician trained in radiology interpretation, and using these results to determine if a referral to another health care provider is necessary or indicates the necessary treatment is within the physical therapist's scope of practice.
 - b. Alleviating impairments, functional limitations in movement and mobility, and disabilities by designing, implementing and modifying therapeutic interventions that may include therapeutic exercise; neuromuscular education; functional training related to positioning, movement, and mobility in self-care and in-home, community, or work integration or reintegration; manual therapy; therapeutic massage; prescription, application and, as appropriate, fabrication of assistive, adaptive, orthotic, prosthetic, protective, and supportive devices and equipment related to positioning, movement, and mobility; airway clearance techniques; integumentary protection and repair techniques; debridement and wound care; physiotherapy; physical agents or modalities; mechanical and electrotherapeutic modalities; and patient-related instruction.
 - c. Engaging as a physical therapist in reducing the risk of injury, impairment, functional limitation and disability, including the promotion and maintenance of fitness, health, and wellness in populations of all ages.
 - d. Engaging as a physical therapist in administration, consultation, education, and research.

SECTION 2. A new section to chapter 43-26.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

Ordering imaging.

A physical therapist may order musculoskeletal imaging consisting of plain film radiographs if the physical therapist holds a clinical doctorate degree in physical therapy or has completed a board-approved formal medical imaging training program.

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	Preside	ent of the Senate		Speaker of the House Chief Clerk of the House	
	Secreta	ary of the Senate			
This certifies the North Dakota a	nat the within b and is known on	ill originated in the the records of that	e Senate of the S t body as Senate E	ixty-seventh Legislative Bill No. 2122.	Assembly o
Senate Vote:	Yeas 46	Nays 1	Absent 0		
House Vote:	Yeas 90	Nays 2	Absent 2		
				Secretary of the Senate	.
Received by the Governor atM. on					, 2021.
Approved at	M. on _				, 2021.
				Governor	
Filed in this off	ing thin	day of			2024
	clock				, 2021,
				Secretary of State	