

An Act relating to professions and occupations; amending 59 O.S. 1991, Sections 887.1, 887.2, 887.3, 887.4 as amended by Section 1, Chapter 126, O.S.L. 1997, 887.5, 887.6, as amended by Section 2, Chapter 126, O.S.L. 1997, 887.7, 887.8, 887.9, 887.10, 887.12, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 126, O.S.L. 1997, 887.13, 887.14, and 887.18 (59 O.S. Supp. 2000, Sections 887.4, 887.6, and 887.12), which relate to the Physical Therapy Practice Act; correcting references; stating findings of the Legislature; adding and changing definitions; making language gender-neutral; providing for construction of act; stating exemptions to license requirement; abolishing committee advisory to State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision; creating, pursuant to Sunset Law, State Board of Physical Therapy Licensure and Supervision; providing for number of members, method of appointment, Senate confirmation, qualifications, length of regular and initial terms, filling of vacancies, grounds for disqualification, removal, and limitation on successive terms and time served; deleting powers and duty of abolished Committee; providing for frequency and conduct of board meetings; requiring records; providing for quorum; providing for election of board officers and terms thereof; applying Administrative Procedures Act requirements to rule-making authority; providing board shall set requirements for licensure, evaluate and examine applicants, and license those qualified; deleting requirement for reporting possible misdemeanor violations of act to district attorneys or Attorney General; specifying information to be listed; authorizing making of contracts; authorizing employment of personnel, including attorneys; requiring publications and reports; authorizing contracting for services; authorizing travel reimbursement; requiring disciplinary actions be reported to national database; providing for license application; deleting testing directive; authorizing use of nationally recognized examination; deleting requirement for recognition of armed forces education; clarifying documentation requirement; requiring licensee report changes in personal information within specified period; providing for deficiency notice and appeal process; establishing examination frequency requirements; specifying content of examination; specifying retesting requirements; authorizing issuance of license without examination; authorizing issuance of interim permits; providing for license expiration, revocation, and renewal and reinstatement requirements; stating therapist performance and documentation requirements; authorizing limited use of assisting personnel; restating, clarifying, and further specifying grounds for refusal to issue, renew, suspend, or revoke license or permit; authorizing investigations; authorizing application for injunctive relief; authorizing imposition of penalties; providing for confidentiality of information; providing for hearings; providing board be represented by legal counsel; stating public duty; providing immunity from civil liability; providing for identification and fine for misrepresentation; increasing fees; making fees nonrefundable; creating revolving fund; providing for disclosure of compensation for referrals or financial interest in products endorsed or recommended; requiring patients be informed of rights; authorizing board to substitute participation in substance-abuse recovery program in lieu of other disciplinary action; providing for written agreements; deleting obsolete language; clarifying references; repealing 59 O.S. 1991, Sections 887.15, 887.16, and 887.17, which relate to misrepresentation, penalties, and referrals; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.