

## CHAPTER 860

(House Bill 1310)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Sections 605, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613 and 614 of Article 43 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume and 1972 Supplement), title "Health," subtitle "Physical Therapy," to provide for licensure of physical therapist assistants; setting forth qualifications for the license, the procedures the assistant is permitted to perform, the degree of supervision required and penalties for violation.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Sections 605, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613 and 614 of Article 43 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume and 1972 Supplement), title "Health," subtitle "Physical Therapy," are hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, and all to read as follows:

605.

(A) "Physical therapist," as defined in this subtitle, means a person who practices physical therapy.

(B) "PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT", AS DEFINED IN THIS SUBTITLE, MEANS A PERSON WHO WORKS UNDER THE DIRECTION OF [IA] ONLY ONE PHYSICAL THERAPIST BY PERFORMING THOSE PHYSICAL THERAPY PROCEDURES (AS LISTED IN SECTION 604, 3.) WHICH ARE ASSIGNED TO HIM BY A PHYSICAL THERAPIST AND WHICH ARE COMMENSURATE WITH HIS EDUCATION AND TRAINING (AS DEFINED IN SECTION 610, (A),(3), BUT NOT THOSE ACTIVITIES AS DEFINED IN SECTION 604, 1. AND 2.). DIRECTION AS DEFINED IN THIS SUBTITLE SHALL MEAN THAT THE PHYSICAL THERAPIST SHALL MAINTAIN CONTINUING VERBAL AND WRITTEN CONTACT WITH THE PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT INCLUDING PERIODIC ON-SITE SUPERVISION AND INSTRUCTION ADEQUATE TO ENSURE THE SAFETY AND WELFARE OF THE PATIENT.

607.

Semiannually, or more often if the Board shall deem it necessary, the said Board shall hold an examination for applicants for [licenses to practice physical therapy in this State.] LICENSURE AS PHYSICAL THERAPISTS AND PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANTS. Notice of time and place of such examination shall be given by one or more announcements in a daily newspaper published in the City of Baltimore and by such other methods as the said Board may see fit to use.

608.

The said Board is empowered to pass upon the qualifications of applicants for [licenses] LICENSURE AS PHYSICAL THERAPISTS AND PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANTS and shall make such OTHER rules and regulations, not inconsistent with this subtitle, as are necessary for the examination and [licensing] LICENSURE of applicants, and for suspension or revocation of licenses.