

1 AN ACT concerning the regulation of professions.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Illinois Physical Therapy Act is amended
5 by adding Sections 0.05 and 14.1 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 90/0.05 new)

7 Sec. 0.05. Legislative Intent. This Act is enacted for
8 the purpose of protecting the public health, safety, and
9 welfare, and for providing for State administrative control,
10 supervision, licensure, and regulation of the practice of
11 physical therapy. It is the legislature's intent that only
12 individuals who meet and maintain prescribed standards of
13 competence and conduct may engage in the practice of physical
14 therapy as authorized by this Act. This Act shall be
15 liberally construed to promote the public interest and to
16 accomplish the purpose stated herein. This Act does not
17 prohibit a person licensed under any other Act in this State
18 from engaging in the practice for which he or she is licensed
19 or from delegating services as provided for under that other
20 Act.

21 (225 ILCS 90/14.1 new)

22 Sec. 14.1. Continuing education renewal requirements.
23 The Department shall promulgate rules concerning continuing
24 education for persons licensed under this Act that require 40
25 hours of continuing education per license renewal cycle for a
26 physical therapist and 20 hours of continuing education per
27 license renewal cycle for a physical therapist assistant. In
28 establishing these rules, the Department shall consider
29 education required for the 2 categories of licensees to
30 maintain current knowledge and understanding of their

1 respective scope of practice, professional ethics, and
2 standards of care, as described in this Act, and in material
3 provided by relevant professional associations. The
4 Department shall also consider the educational requirements
5 for board certification in physical therapy specialty areas,
6 requirements for advanced clinical or academic degrees
7 related to physical therapy, requirements for attaining
8 advanced skills specific to particular practice environments
9 and patient populations, and the educational needs related to
10 special interest groups within the professions. These rules
11 shall assure that licensees are given the opportunity to
12 participate in those programs sponsored by or through their
13 professional associations, hospitals, or employers and which
14 are relevant to their practice. These rules shall also
15 address variances for illness or hardship. Each licensee is
16 responsible for maintaining records of completion of
17 continuing education and shall be prepared to produce the
18 records when requested by the Department.

19 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
20 becoming law.